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# How to Draw for Beginners:

## The EASIEST 15-Day Drawing Method Course

**K-Editions**

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**How to Draw for Beginners: The EASIEST 15-Day Drawing Method Course**

by Amelia Khouri

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# How to Draw for Beginners:

## The EASIEST 15-Day Drawing Method Course

"A Shortcut on Learning the Basics of Drawing Quickly and Efficiently for Any Beginner"

**AMELIA KHOURI**

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**Dedicated to all beginner artists everywhere no matter where you are.**

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# Introduction

Knowing how to draw, what to draw, and finding your art style; getting results over time by seeing real, steady progress in your art skills; not getting stuck with art block; and creating unique and amazing artwork are all things you can do, and I'll show you how.

This is a straight-to-the-point drawing guide for all beginners and even intermediate artists.

With this book, you will learn to draw and learn the fundamentals of drawing in only 2 weeks. If you've always wanted to learn to draw and become an artist, following this book is a journey you wouldn't want to miss.

### The way to follow this book:

I want you to think of this book as a course. I divided it into sections where you will learn every day something new for a period of 2 weeks. As you progress, you will find that your knowledge and techniques will grow and continue to escalate.

Know that this book is intended to teach you how to draw and see things differently as an artist. When you will finish this book, you'll be able to draw what you want and be capable of continuing to expand your drawing skills and improve even more all by yourself so that you'll become a pro in time.

This book could serve as a reference even after finishing it, as I will be sharing a lot of reference images and step-by-step tutorials.

### Know this:

If I had a book like the one you're holding in your hands right now the first day I wanted to learn to draw, everything would have been significantly easier. It would have been a clear

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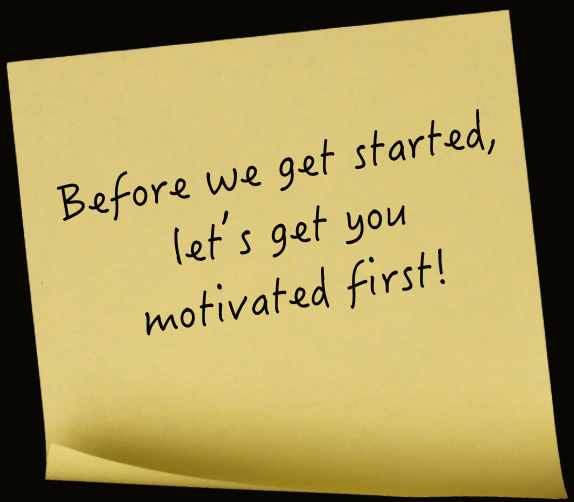
path to follow. I didn't have that chance, but you do. You just got yourself a shortcut. Enjoy.

And finally, Neil Gaiman once said that a book is a dream that you hold in your hands. This book is a dream of mine, and I hope that it will help you quickly realize your own dream of learning to draw...

…I know it will.

**- Amelia Khouri**


Before we get started,
let's get you
motivated first!

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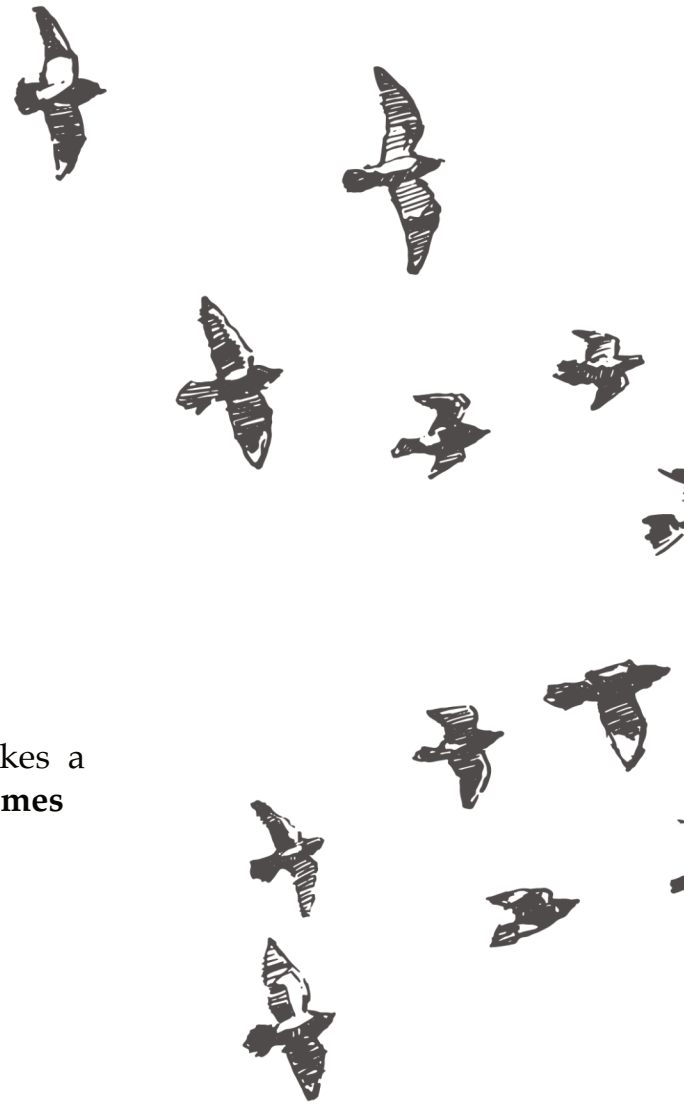
"A person who never made a mistake, never tried anything new." **— Albert Einstein**

"If you can dream it, you can do it." **— Walt Disney**



"The beginning is the most important part of the work." **— Plato**

"Act as if what you do makes a difference, it does." **— Willam James**

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.”
**— Pablo Picasso**

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"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." **— Lao Tzu**

"You can, you should, and if you're brave enough to start, you will" **- Stephen king**

"We all have 10,000 bad drawings in us. The sooner we get them out the better."
**— Walt Stanchfield**

"The secret of getting ahead is to getting started"
**— Mark Twain**

"Every artist was first an amateur."
**— Ralph Waldo Emerson**

# Breakdown of the

DAY 01

## The starting point

You'll discover your current skill level, and I'll demonstrate that you can start drawing right away.

DAY 02

## Enlightenment

You will find out what you like and how it can help you get unlimited drawing ideas with a simple method.

DAY 03

## Drawing eyes

You will learn how to draw an eye realistically and also understand its anatomy.

## Learning to see things differently

DAY 04

You will learn to see the world and everything that surrounds you in a different way.

## Learning proportions

You will learn to draw various facial features and faces step-by-step using simple techniques, with a focus on achieving accurate proportions.

DAY 05

# two weeks' plan

## Understanding how to draw in perspective

**DAY 06**

You will learn to draw 3D objects by learning the basics of perspective with simple exercices.

## The grid method

**DAY 07**

You will learn to use the grid lines method to simplify your drawing learning process.

## Create unique drawings

**DAY 08**

You will learn how to create unique artworks in 2 steps.

**DAY 09**

## Practice

Practicing and hitting your goals.

**DAY 10**

**DAY 11**

**DAY 12**

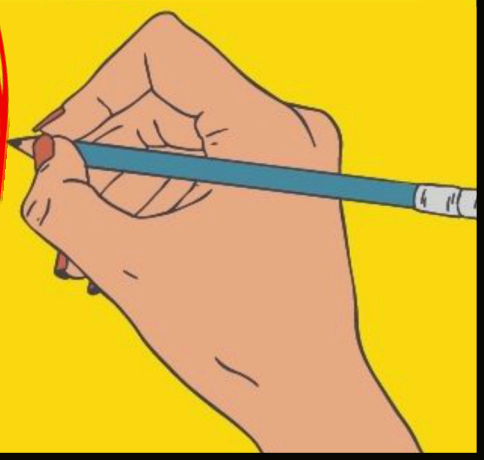
**DAY 13**

**DAY 14**

## Bonus section

Additional advice

**DAY 15**



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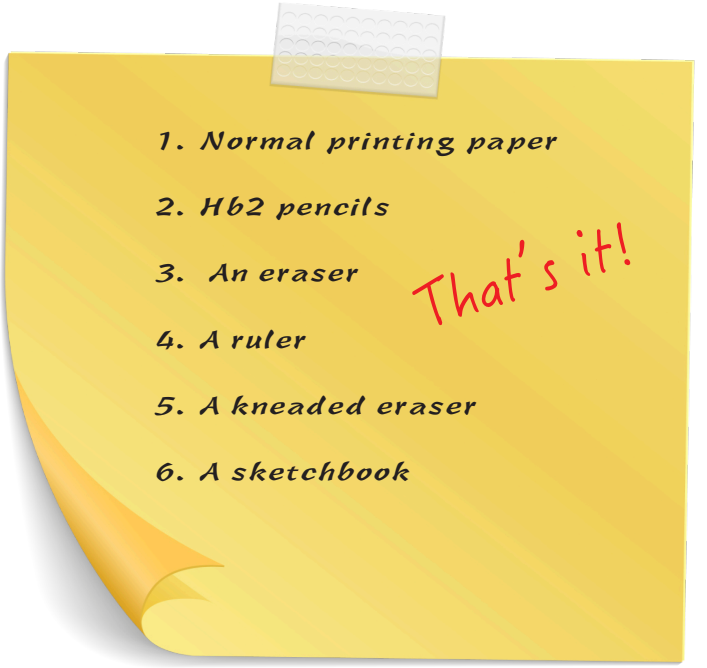
# Materials & supplies you will need

Many people might think that drawing requires various materials and tools, such as different kinds of pencils and specific types of paper, among others.

In reality, this is not entirely true, especially when you are just starting. Yes, there is a wide range of pencils and papers available, which can be overwhelming to some people. I don't want that to be the case for you.

That's why I want to take the time to mention what you'll need for this course. Nothing too fancy; you might already have more than half of the supplies at home. However, I would still like to inform you about what you'll need.

**That is what you'll need:**




**Why these materials, and when will you use them?**

1. In the first chapters of this book, I will ask you to draw and write certain things on pieces of paper. You won't need any special paper; any paper will do the trick, such as printing paper.

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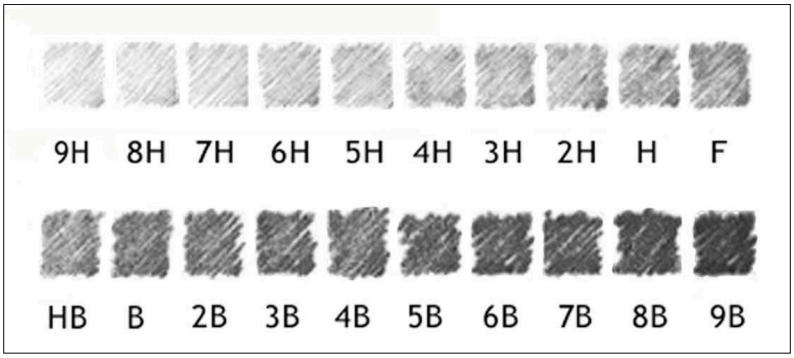
2. To follow this course, you will obviously need a pencil for drawing. The type of pencil that I find best for beginners, as well as professionals, is Staedtler HB2 pencils. If you can't find a Staedtler pencil, then any HB2 or H2 pencils (which are similar) should be adequate. Personally, I believe that the Staedtler brand is the best choice.

## Know and understand the difference

There are mainly two reasons why there are so many different types of pencils. Here they are:

### 1. There is a numbering system for pencils to indicate how dark the pencil is.




**H=** H pencils: Harder pencils, with lighter marks. Good for sketching and outlining.

**HB=** HB pencils: Neutral pencils, good for a variety of tasks.

**B=** B pencils: Softer pencils, with darker marks. Good for shading and creating darker tones.

As you can see, there are different shades of pencils. Not all pencils are alike; some are darker while others are lighter. I suggested getting an HB2 or a 2B pencil because it is a more neutral pencil, which is great for beginners.

### 2. There are different brands...

Sometimes it might seem overwhelming to go to a store and find so many different pencils. As a beginner, we don't know what to choose, which brand is better, and so on.

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## So, what brand should you choose?

The simplest solution would be to start with the brand that has worked best for me for years, which is called Staedtler. However, over time, you can experiment by trying other brands, until you find the one that works best for you, and then stick to it.

## How can I tell if a pencil is HB 2 or not, or what brand of pencil it is?

**1.** To find out, simply look at the tip of the pencil. There, you should be able to see the number and the brand.

**2.** If the pencil is packaged, check the description on the packaging; you'll surely see the brand and type of pencil.

**3.** The other simplest way would be to ask someone who works at the store.

## What eraser should you choose?

It can be the same brand as the pencil. The Staedtler eraser erases really well.

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*"A normal eraser on the left, a kneaded eraser on the right."*

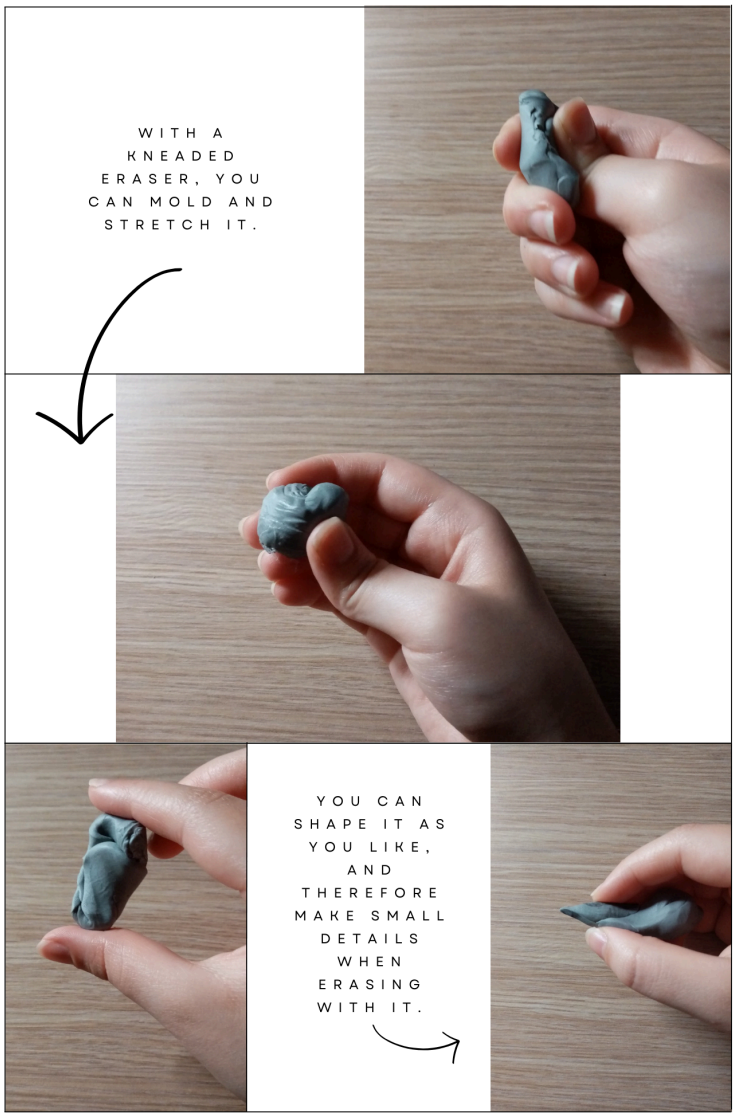
A poor-quality eraser can give you a hard time when drawing, as it doesn't erase well and can also damage your paper. This can be particularly difficult, especially for beginners.

## What's the difference between an eraser and a kneaded eraser?

As mentioned earlier, you'll be needing a kneaded eraser, but what sets it apart from a normal eraser?

An eraser, as you know, is firm and erases pencil lines. On the other hand, a kneaded eraser can be molded, stretched, and used for very light erasing, making it an amazing tool for shading and adding highlights.

Most beginners might not realize what an incredible tool it is until they use it.



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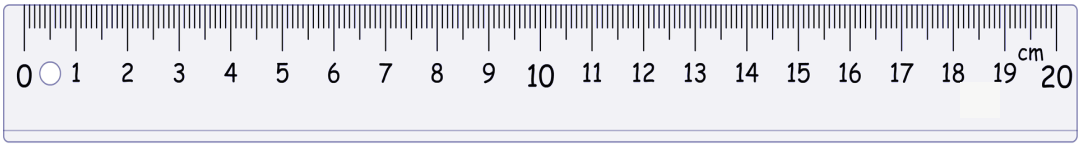
## Why would you need a ruler?

You will need a ruler because at some point in this book, I will provide reference images and drawings with measurements.

All beginners in drawing often struggle with proportions, but the measurements provided in this book will help diminish this issue. A ruler will play a key role in your learning process, so make sure to have one on hand.




## What sketchbook should you buy?

Lastly, you will need a sketchbook throughout this journey, but you may be asking yourself, “Which sketchbook should I choose?”

Simply go to a store that sells sketchbooks and select the one you like best. For your first sketchbook, choose one that looks and feels good. By 'feels good,' I mean consider the pages, touch them, and observe their texture. Some papers are hard to the touch, some are soft, and others have smoother surfaces. Additionally, some people prefer yellowish paper, while others prefer white paper. So, pick the one that feels and looks best to you.

Then, over time, when you finish

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your first sketchbook, try buying a new one that is different from the first. Experiment with various sketchbooks until one day, you come across one (or even a sketchbook brand) that you will swear by.

### Why do some people use a specific type of paper for their art?

The thing you need to know is that when it comes to choosing a sketchbook, some people can be very picky. They require specific paper, or else they won't use it. But why? Depending on the medium, some people need specialized paper while others do not.

If someone draws using markers, they need paper that will not bleed. If someone paints with a certain type of paint, like watercolor, they will have to choose a sketchbook with thick paper designed for watercolors; otherwise, it will bleed and won't dry properly, often causing warping and buckling problems.

However, when it comes to general drawing with simple pencils, there's no need to be overly picky because the majority of drawing papers are designed for dry mediums, like pencils, pen, and ink.

In summary, choose a pencil that you feel comfortable with (preferably an HB2 Staedtler brand). Then, over time, experiment with different sketchbooks; one day, you'll discover which one works best for you.

**Know this:**

In the upcoming chapters, you will start by drawing on normal printing paper, but at a certain point, I will advise you to transition to using your sketchbook and drawing in it. **(see page 73)**

(I will also provide advice and tips on how to organize your sketchbook on page 323.)

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# Mistakes to avoid

Know them before you make them

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# Mistakes to avoid

*"Instead of learning from other people's success, learn from their mistakes. Most of the people who fail share common reasons (to fail) whereas success can be attributed to various different kinds of reasons." — **Jack Ma***

Before diving into this book, I'd like to highlight the most common mistakes that beginners make. By being aware of them in advance, you can avoid these pitfalls and make your journey to success easier and shorter.

Most beginning artists tend to encounter the same problems at some point in their drawing journey. They all struggle with similar obstacles, which can often take them months or even years to overcome. They repeatedly face obstacles that prevent them from achieving their artistic goals. But why go through all of this if you can learn from the errors and experiences of other novice artists and avoid the common mistakes that everyone makes by default?

As Sam Levenson once said, "Learn from other people's mistakes. Life is too short to make them all yourself."

This book is primarily designed as a shortcut to learn drawing, so I don't want you to repeat the mistakes most people make when they first start drawing. These mistakes can slow you down and delay your learning process.

So, to help you acknowledge them and learn how to avoid them, here are 10 mistakes that most beginners make when they first start drawing.

**Know this:**

All the mistakes listed on the next pages will automatically be avoided by following the instructions of this course. I have included them here because it is essential to be aware of them as general knowledge beforehand.

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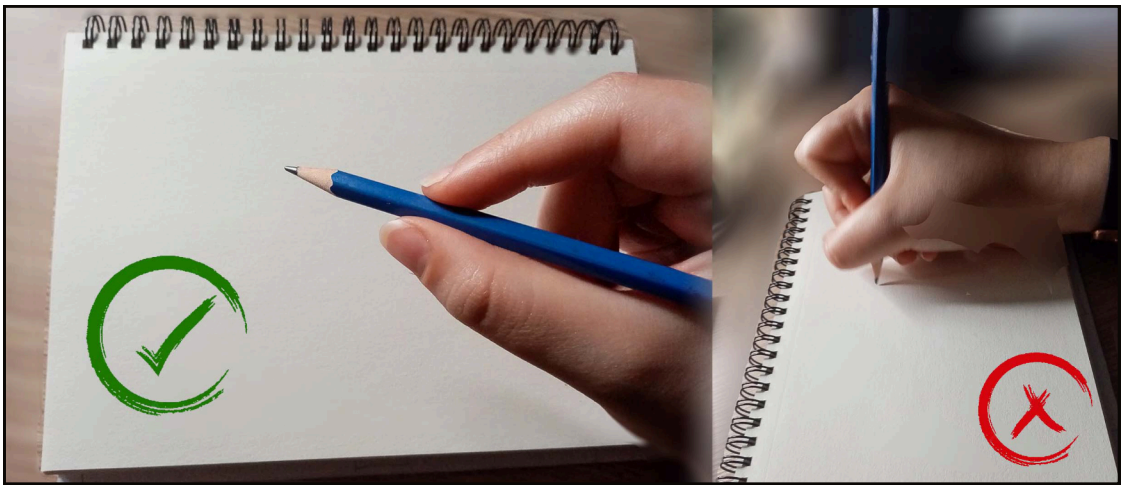
# 10 common mistakes that most beginners make when they first start drawing

## 1. Applying too much pressure on your pencil

Mostly, all beginners do this. They decide they want to draw, they take a piece of paper, a pencil, and get started. But when they do, they unknowingly apply too much pressure on their pencil and draw strong outlines, which can ruin a drawing.

Always try to draw loosely and smoothly. Keep this in mind as you draw. To help you, **here are 2 tricks:**

**. Trick number 1:** Try holding your pencil with 2 fingers instead of all 5 fingers. Then, draw random lines on a piece of paper.



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Do you noticed a difference? Your lines should be much softer now. However, with this technique, you can still draw strong lines if you want to. That's why the second technique is even better.

. **Trick number 2:** The best option is to hold your pencil with your non-dominant hand and try drawing random lines again.

You should feel a significant difference because it is not your dominant hand, you do not have the feeling of being in control of your pencil. You can draw more fluidly, and that's the main purpose of this exercise: to familiarize yourself with the proper way to hold your pencil.

Your next step is to then match the pressure you applied with your non-dominant hand to the pressure of your dominant hand. This should fix the Initial pressure problem.

## 2. Comparing yourself to others

You shouldn't compare your first drawings with those of someone who's been drawing for years because when someone first learns to draw, they're not going to draw incredibly well from the start. Everyone learns at their own pace.

By avoiding comparisons with others, you give yourself more opportunities to learn and progress, rather than getting discouraged.

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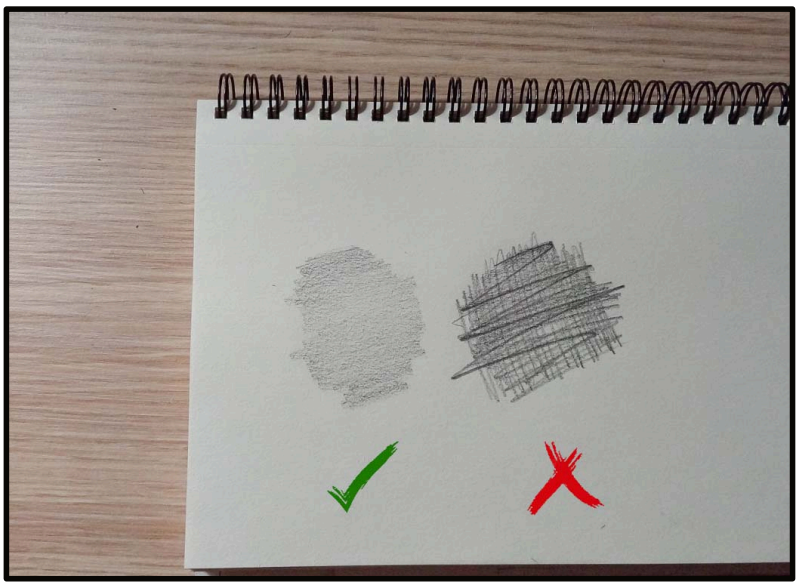
## 3. Problems when shading

The inability to blend properly is a common issue for beginners. Blending involves adding shading to a face or object and making it "blend" so that it achieves a realistic aspect, as you can see in the pictures on the right.

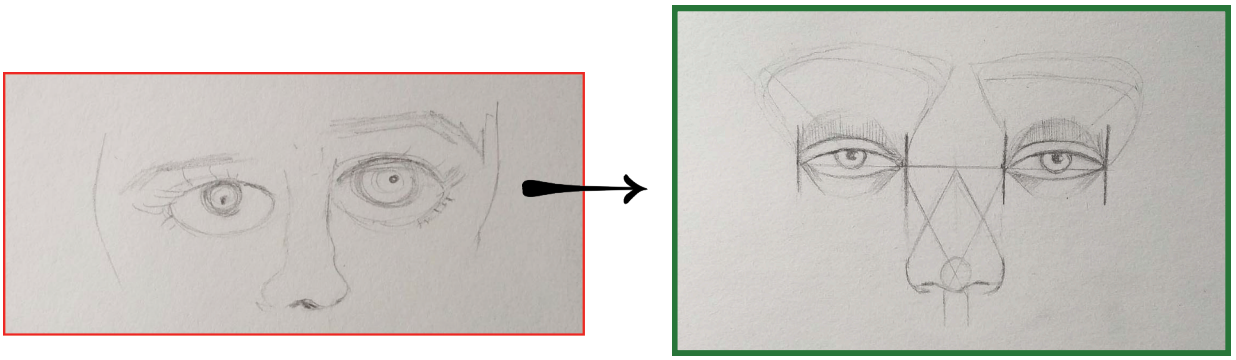


There are many ways to blend pencil lines. You can use a tissue, blending pencils, a random brush, or even your finger.

**We will be covering this subject more in-depth from page 80 onward.**

## 4. Getting the proportions wrong

Getting the proportions wrong is when features of a face, for instance, are not drawn accurately. For example, one eye can be bigger than the other, the nose can be crooked, and so on.



Instead of drawing with the right proportions, as you can see in the image on the right...

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### 5. Getting discouraged too quickly

*“We are not happy, technically speaking unless we see ourselves progressing - and the very idea of progression implies value."* ***- Jordan Peterson***

No matter what we do or learn, if after a certain point, we do not see progress and development, we get discouraged and see no point in continuing.

One of the main reasons why this happens is because we set high goals for ourselves or simply have a negative mental attitude. Sometimes it is simply a lack of guidance and laziness. The reasons why we often give up can be endless. Just be aware of this fact:

There is no failure **except** if you stop trying.

And sometimes you don't even have to try so hard to reach your goal; you just need some guidance, and that's one of the main reasons why this book will be so valuable for you.

### 6. Thinking too much

The simple act of planning and wanting to choose the perfect reference photo, gathering all the materials you need, and overthinking the details of what you're going to draw or should draw can limit you without you even realizing it. Overthinking becomes a problem if you want everything to be perfect before you even start.

As Bruce Lee once said, "If you spend too much time thinking about a thing, you'll never get it done."

### 7. Not having any plan or guidance

Unlike issue number 6, sometimes we don't think at all and have no plans.

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Sometimes we just feel a bit bored and want to draw something. But what? You have no idea.

You don't know what to draw or how to learn to draw. You find yourself simply without a plan and clueless about the steps to follow.

## 8. Not knowing what to draw

As mentioned above, not knowing what to draw is often referred to as "ART BLOCK," a word that scares many artists.

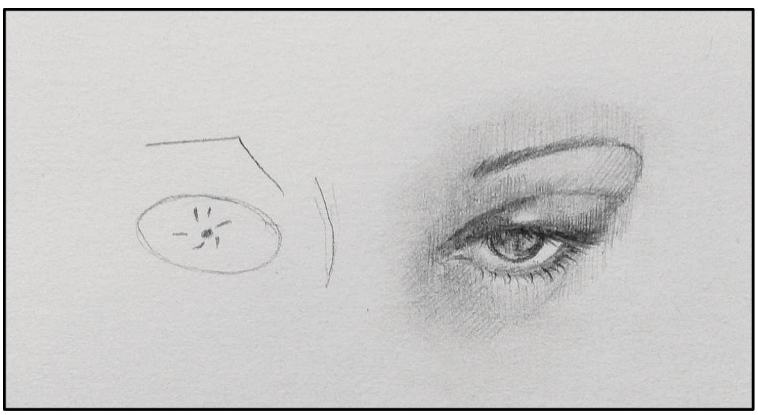
In this book, I will be providing you with lots of drawing ideas, reference images, some easy step-by-step drawings to follow, and more! All of this is to ensure that you will never have to say this sentence in front of a piece of paper:

"I would love to draw, but I don't know what to draw."

Throughout the book, we will occasionally discuss this topic, but we will explore this subject more thoroughly on pages **55** to **63** and on pages **291** to **301.**

## 9. Not being able to draw the other eye

This is one of those annoying problems that really frustrates beginners. You make a rough sketch of two eyes. You spend a long time drawing the first eye. You're surprised at how well it turned out. You're happy, but then...



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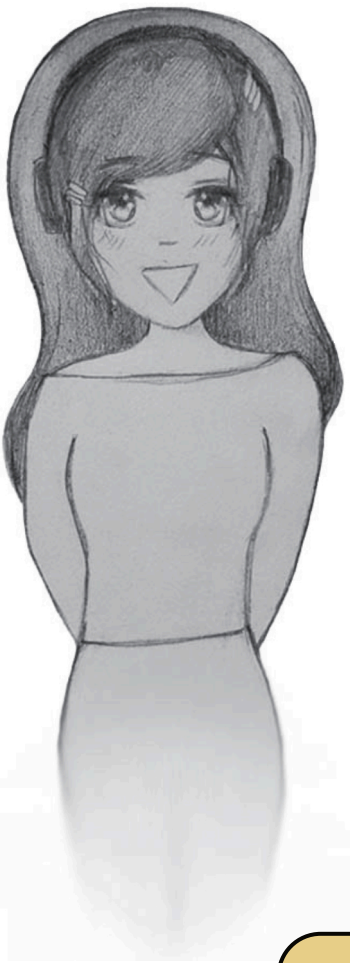
...you can't draw the other eye as well as the first one.

**For this, I will share some techniques to help you overcome this situation on page 92.**

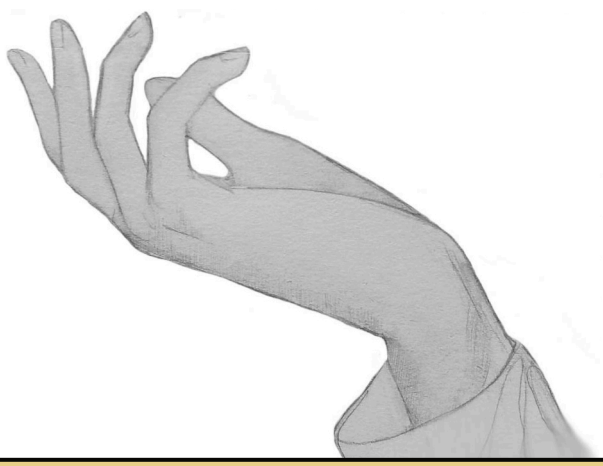
I will also provide you with some drawing references of eyes with grids, making it easier for you to copy and draw two identical and beautiful eyes **(pages 232).**

### 10. Having a hard time drawing hands and feet



Every artist has something they dread drawing. For some, it is drawing perspective, landscapes, or realism, but for most artists, especially beginners, they have a hard time drawing hands and feet.

If you have ever drawn before, did you find yourself hiding the hands behind your character or stopping at the knee when drawing legs like the character on the left?



**All of the mentioned mistakes and more will be avoided, hopefully, thanks to this book, so let's not wait any longer and dive in.**

**The 2-week drawing course starts now!**

Flip the page to get started

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# 01

## WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL?

02

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# Day ONE

01

*"Find out where you are at, where you are going, and build a plan to get there."* ***— Robert Kiyosaki***

**Step 1: Take a blank piece of paper and draw an eye, a house, a flower, a face, and an animal of your choice (you can also add another object or subject if you like).**

I think the first step is pretty self-explanatory and fairly simple to understand. Basically, this step is to assess your drawing skill level. It will also serve as a reminder of where you started before you began this drawing journey, and before following all of the steps in this book

## Why is it so important, you might ask? (Or not ;)

Mainly because sometimes it's hard to keep track of our progress, especially when our evolution is small and gradual. And so sometimes our memory and way of thinking can play tricks on us; we think we have not improved at all when, in fact, we have.

Often, we may not realize our evolution in a certain area in the long run, and that's why it's good to keep track of your drawings and where you started. This way, you'll know exactly how much you'll have improved with time.

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## So, are you ready to start?

In the following pages, you will find blank rectangles where you will have to draw as indicated before: an eye, a house, a flower, a face, and an animal of your choice (you can also add another object or subject if you like). Once you have drawn everything as mentioned, write the date at the top of the page.

If you do not wish to draw directly in this book, it's okay. You can go to:

**https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

... to download and print the template pages, or you can simply take a blank piece of paper and draw all the things mentioned above. (Either way, whatever you decide, don't forget to write the current date!)

Draw from your head without using any references!

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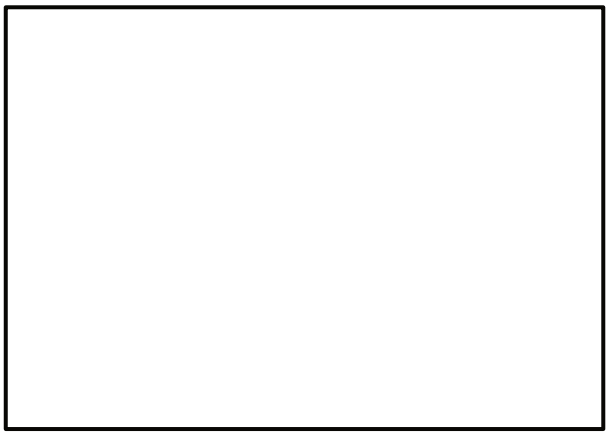
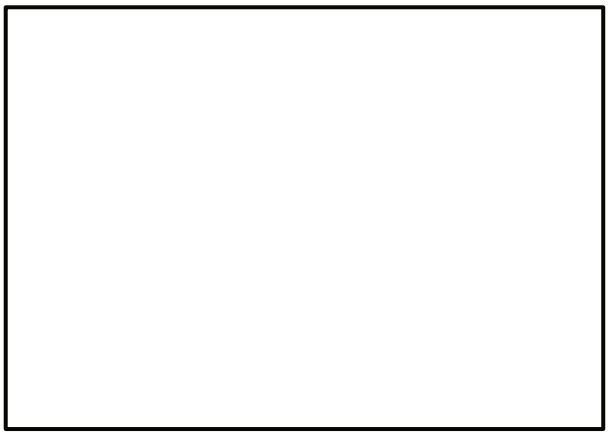
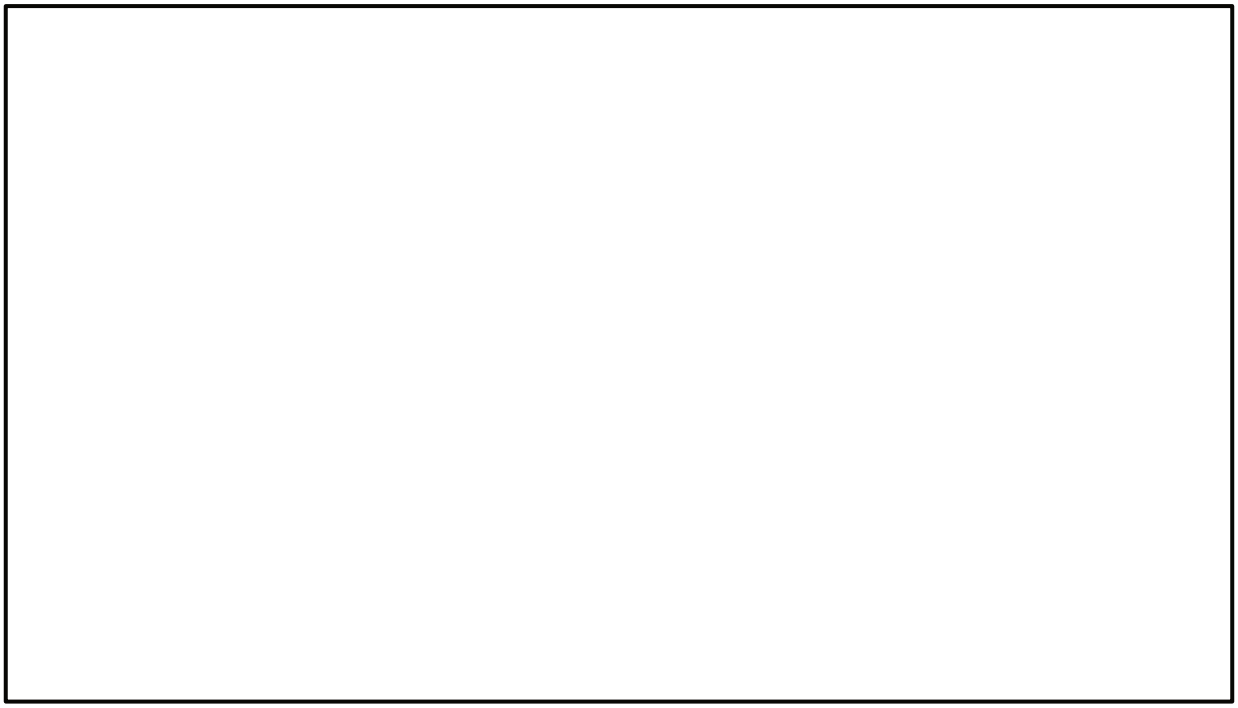


**An eye**

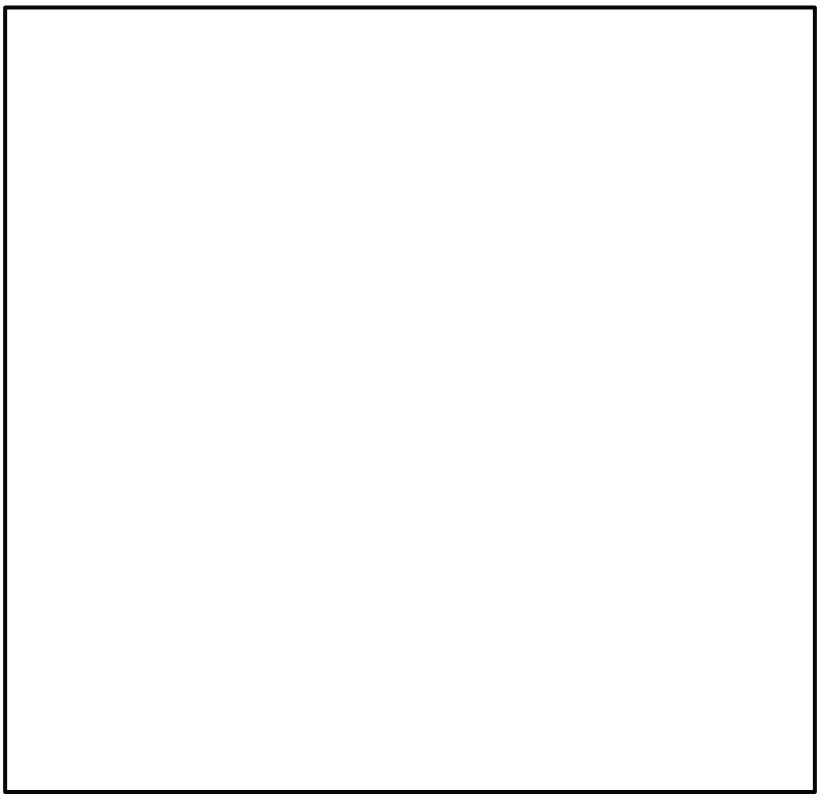


**A flower**

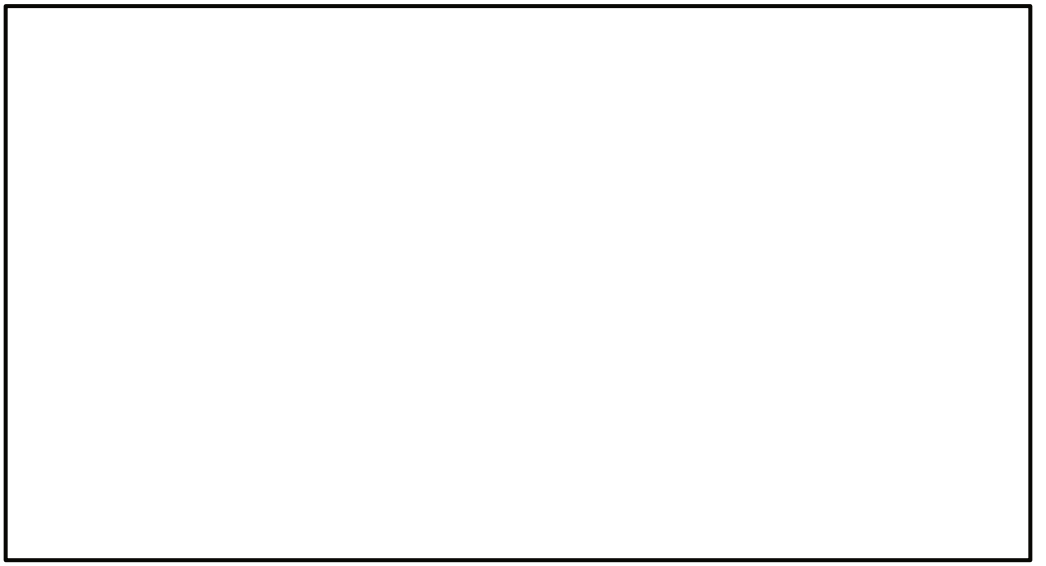


**A house**

**Day 1**



**A face**



**An animal**

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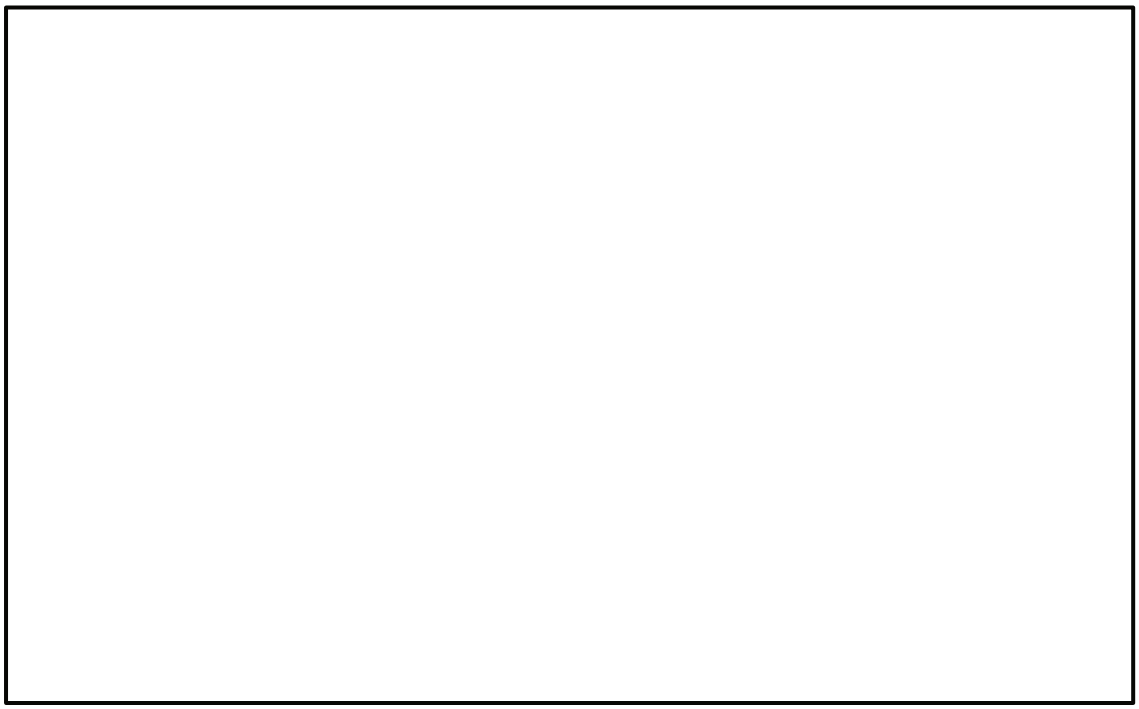

**Another object or subject of your choice**

You can find these template sheets to download and print if you go to:

**https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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# The ultimate proof

*"You don't know what you don't know."* — ***Socrates***

Before we start, I'd like to prove to you that you can draw. To do this, let me quickly explain why you have not been able to draw until now.

## 1. Unknowledgeable of certain techniques

The main reason is that you may not know certain drawing techniques to be able to draw. Like any job, profession, or activity, drawing requires a certain level of knowledge and skill to excel; the same applies here.

For instance, someone who is not a pilot cannot fly a plane, not because they can't, but because they haven't undergone years of training to become a pilot. Similarly, someone who has never cooked won't be able to cook properly because they haven't learned the necessary recipes and techniques to become a chef. In addition, many recipes don't have to be super complicated to cook and can still be delicious.

The same approach applies to drawing. Since you are reading this book, I'm guessing you might not be able to draw at all or might not draw really well, again, not because you can't, but because you haven't learned certain drawing techniques that could help you become an artist.

## 2. Not paying much attention to details

The second thing is that often enough, we don't really observe what surrounds us - yes, we see, but we do not observe in detail what surrounds us. Therefore, we only remember the big picture, the basic outlines, and the contours of people and objects.

We will be covering this subject more in-depth on day 4 **(see page 101)**

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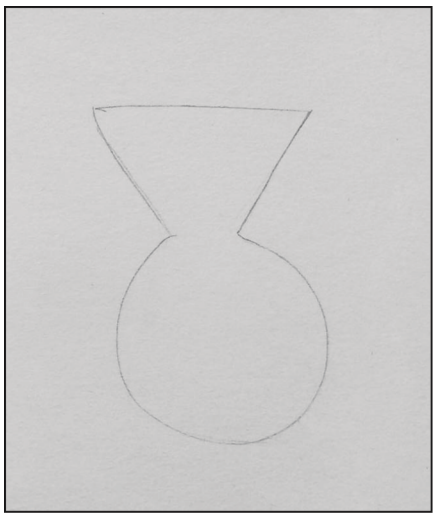
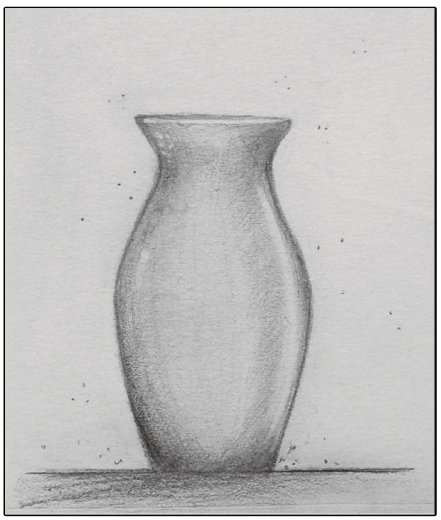
For example, if I told you to draw a vase right now, you would probably draw something that would be similar to drawing number 1 when, in reality, it should look a bit like the second drawing.

**Drawing 1**

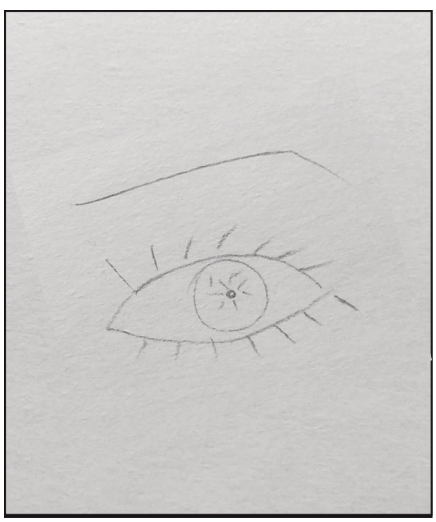


**Drawing 2**

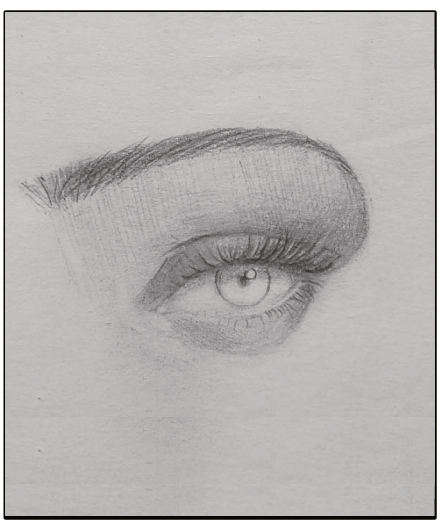


If I told you to draw an eye, you would more likely draw it like the drawing on the left than the one on the right.

**Drawing 1**

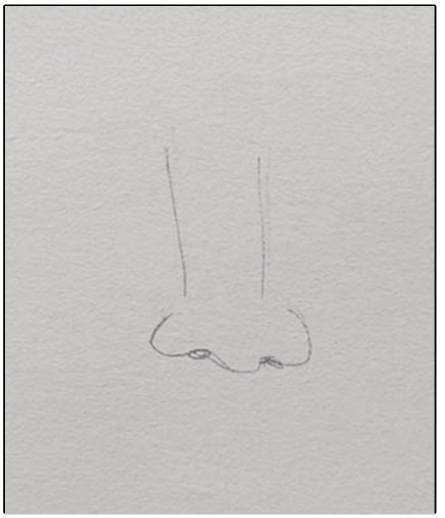


**Drawing 2**

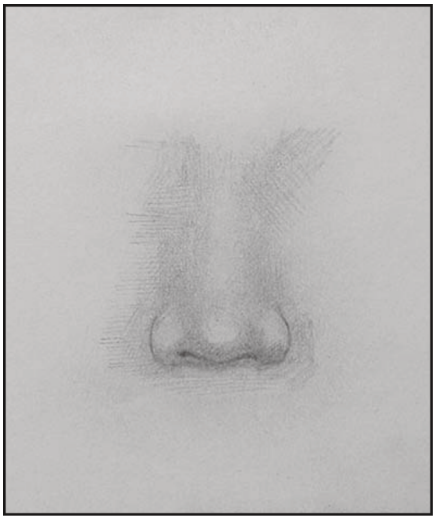


Another example, if I told you to draw a nose, it would probably look like the drawing on the left.

**Drawing 1**



**Drawing 2**



**And so on...**

So in brief, if someone has never drawn before and is asked to draw something, they will almost always automatically draw the outline of an object they often see, and that without knowing it.

## 3. Mental attitude

Mentality plays a significant role in our life in general. In any project we undertake, if our mentality is weak, we have low expectations, a higher chance of failure, and achieve lower results. On the other hand, with a more positive mentality, we have the opposite effect and increase our chances of achieving more rewarding results.

It’s never too late to start learning to draw, no matter what your age is. If you just have the ''will' ' to learn to draw that takes over your thoughts, there is a great chance that you will succeed.

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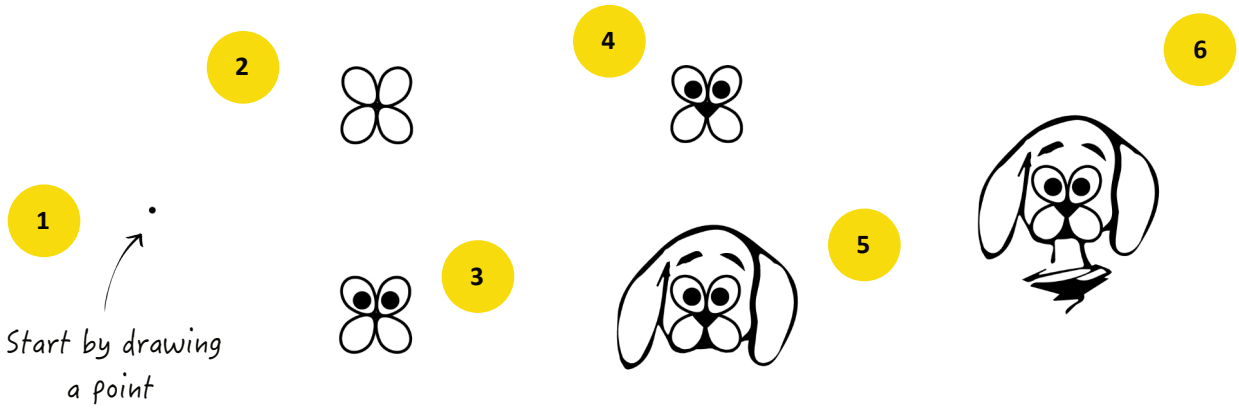
**Keep this in mind:**

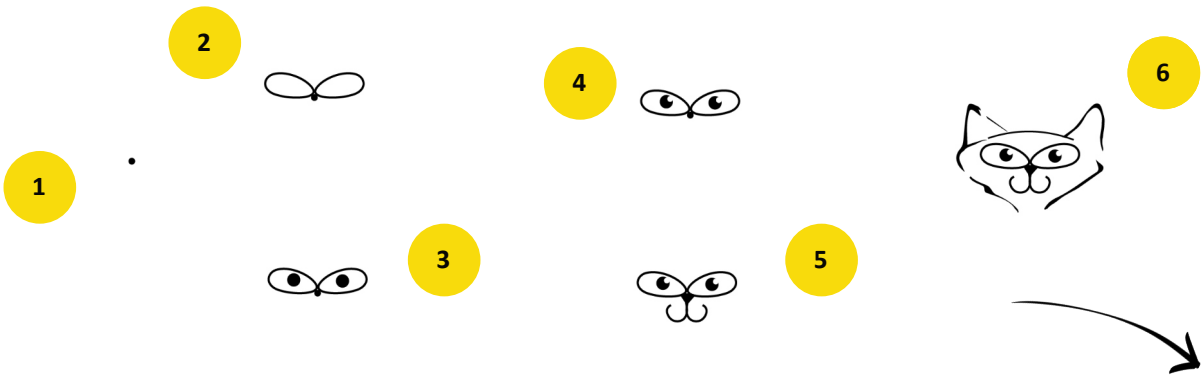
"A positive mindset, not a doomsday mentality, supports being exceptional" **— Wayne Dyer**

## Small and simple drawings for you to try:

Draw a simple dog's head by following this quick step-by-step tutorial:




Draw now a simple cat by following this quick step-by-step tutorial:



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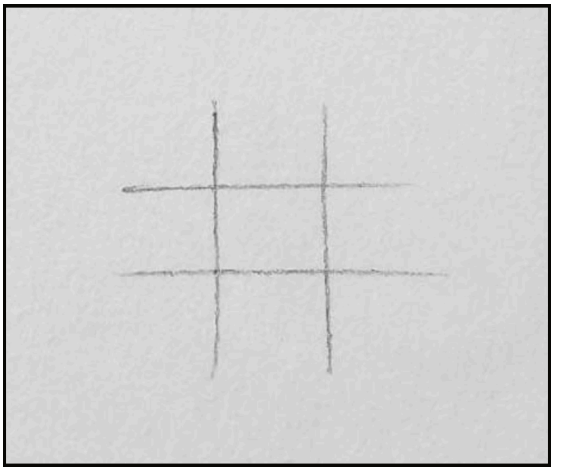
8

Now let's move on to the next drawing

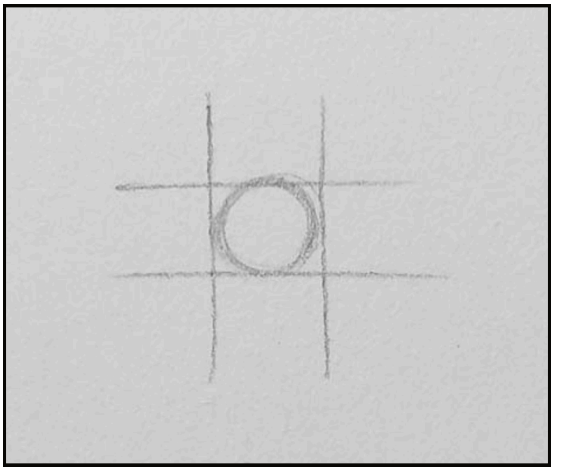
## Draw a simple eye

1

Start by drawing a Tic-tac-toe grid.



You don't even need to draw it with a ruler. Drawing it freehandedly can be enough.



2

Draw a circle inside the tic-tac-toe grid

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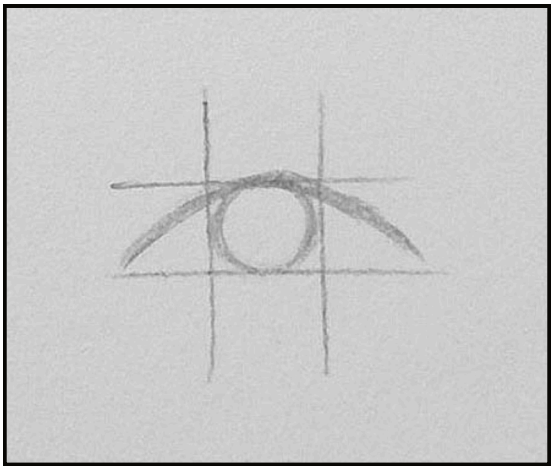
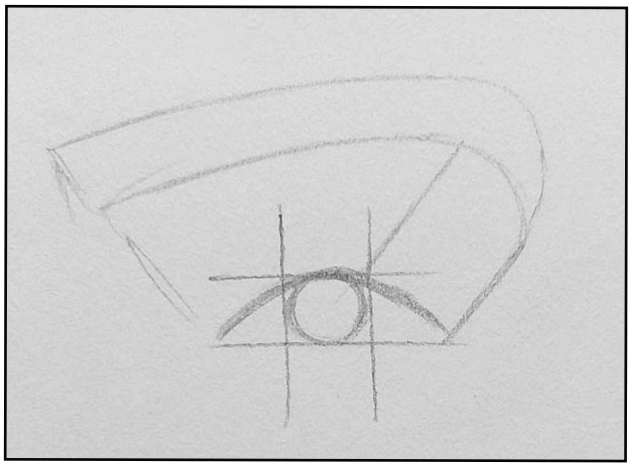
3



Add an arch line as shown.

Draw 3 lines: one coming from the inner eye, the second line coming from the center of the eye, and the third and last line is...

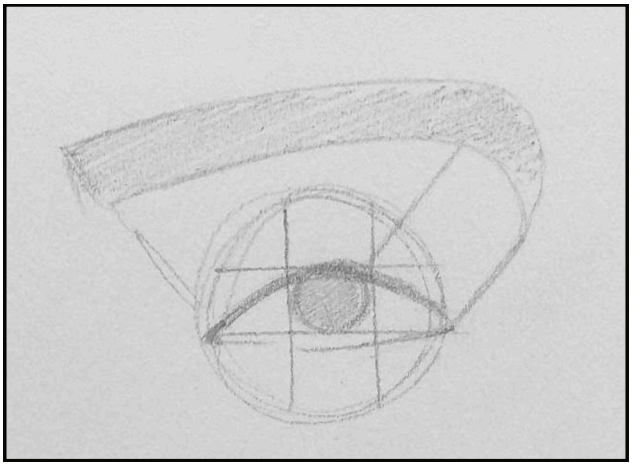


4

...curved, starting from the right corner of the eye and connecting to the second line. These 3 lines will help you draw the eyebrow.

5

Draw some soft lines inside the eyebrow you drew.

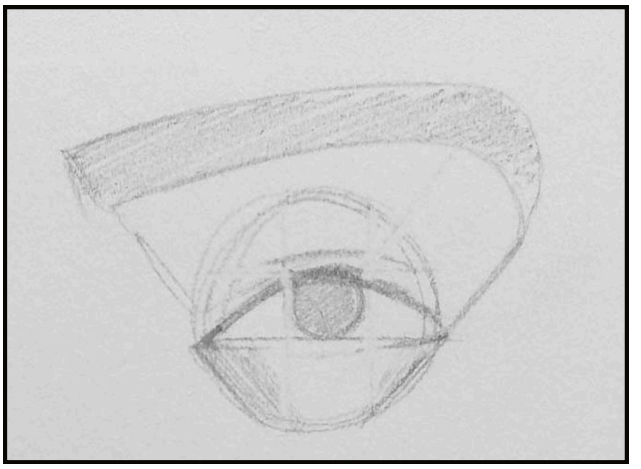


Then, draw a circle around that tic-tac-toe grid.

**Day 1**

Erase the initial tic-tac-toe grid you outlined before, taking care not to erase significant parts of the rest of the drawing.

6



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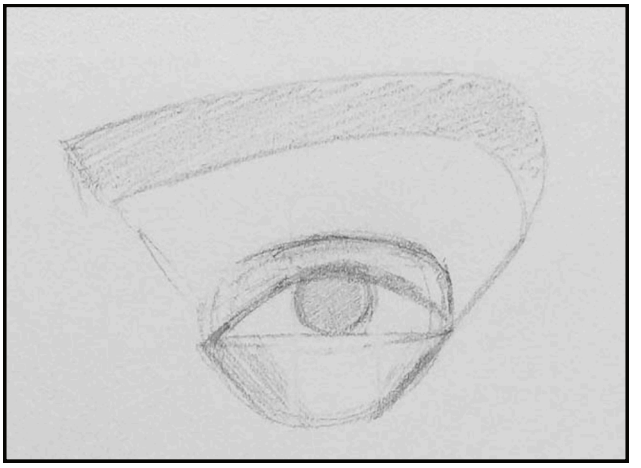
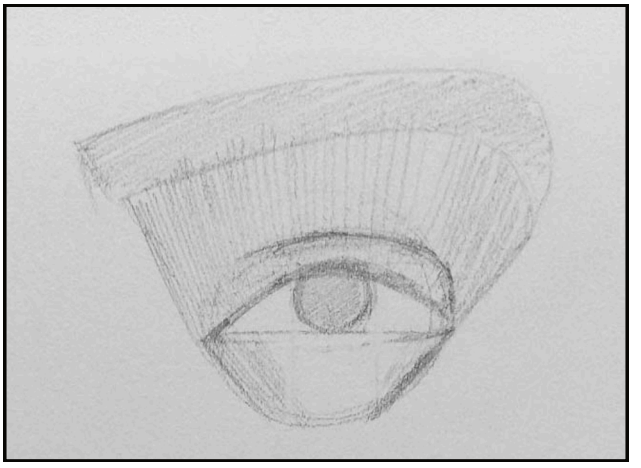


Try to cover the areas that were affected during the erasing of the tic-tac-toe grid.

Then proceed to draw straight vertical lines as shown.



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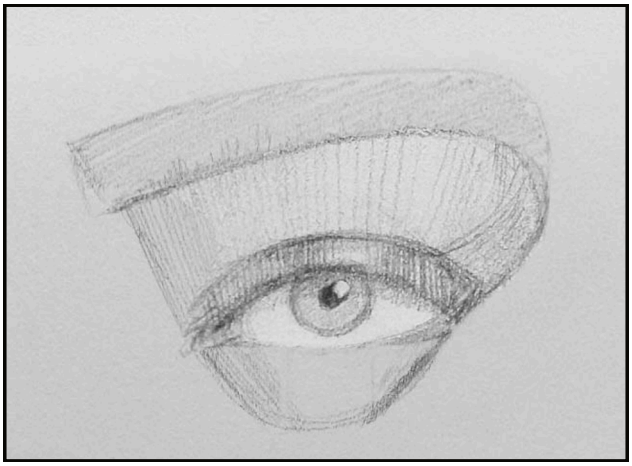
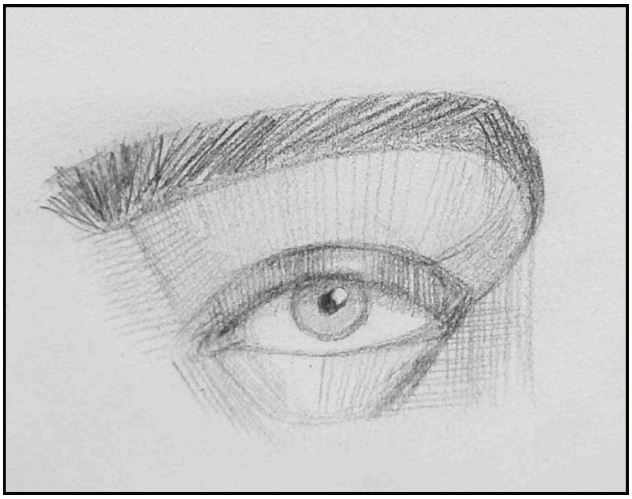
**9**

Draw the iris and a little white circle as a highlight next to it.



Then add shading to create contrast.



**10**

Continue adding contrast by darkening the necessary areas and add the hair details for the eyebrow.

Additionally, include some light lines as shown in the drawing on the left.

We will be covering this subject more in-depth on day 3 **(page 77)**

If you found this tutorial a little complicated, follow the steps up to the seventh step for now. On day 3, we will cover more in-depth on how to draw eyes with detailed instructions, so don't worry about it too much for now.

The more important thing is that the drawing you just made must be much better than the eye drawing you previously did on the blank rectangle. Isn't it? So, that's what you should keep in mind for now. As mentioned before, on day 3, you'll learn how to draw an eye even better. Everything has its time.

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Day 1

## Drawing faces in a cartoonish style

Today, I'm also going to show you an easy way to draw cartoonish faces. This drawing concept that I'm going to show was principally inspired by Graham Shaw's TEDx Talk video, and I'm happy to share it with you.

### 1)- Breaking down a simple way to draw a cartoonish face

### 2)- Knowing that there are lots of alternatives

With the help of this board showing different super simple ways of drawing facial features, you can create lots of different cartoonish characters.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Eyes:** | |
| **Noses:** | |
| **Mouths:** | |

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**P.S.:** Here's a helpful tip to simplify the process of drawing cartoon characters: you can always draw the eyes as the number 66 and use the same jawline while changing the nose, hair, and mouth.

However, don't limit yourself to just the facial features provided. After some practice, try experimenting and having fun by drawing faces with this new method on your own.

You can start by drawing the same eyes and noses three times, then try different mouths to see the variations. It's really simple, so give it a try!

## Some examples

**Now it's your turn to try it out:**

( )( )( )( )( )

( )( )( )( )( )

( )( )( )( )( )

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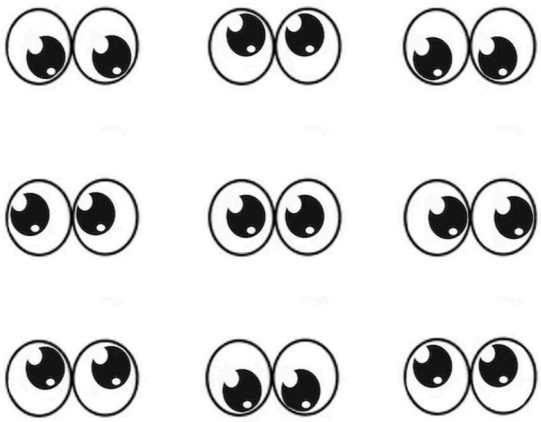
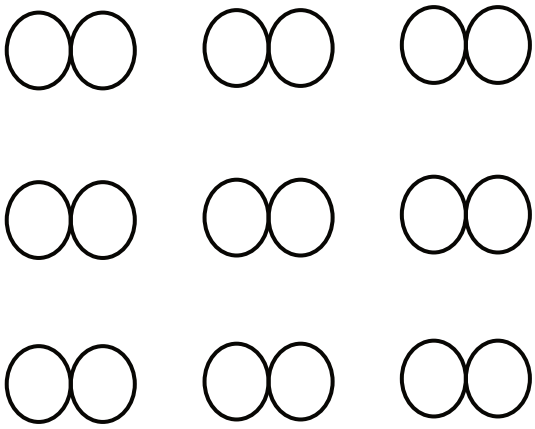
## How to easily draw eyes in different directions:



**Now it's your turn to try it out:**



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**Congratulations! You've just completed Day One. On your left, you'll see a habit tracker. It's a simple tool to keep track of your habits and progress. Just write the date and lesson you finished and mark off each day you finish the day's lesson.**

**Remember to come back to this page every time you finish a lesson!**

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# Habit tracker

Write the date here

| | mon | tue | wed | thu | fri | sat | sun |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
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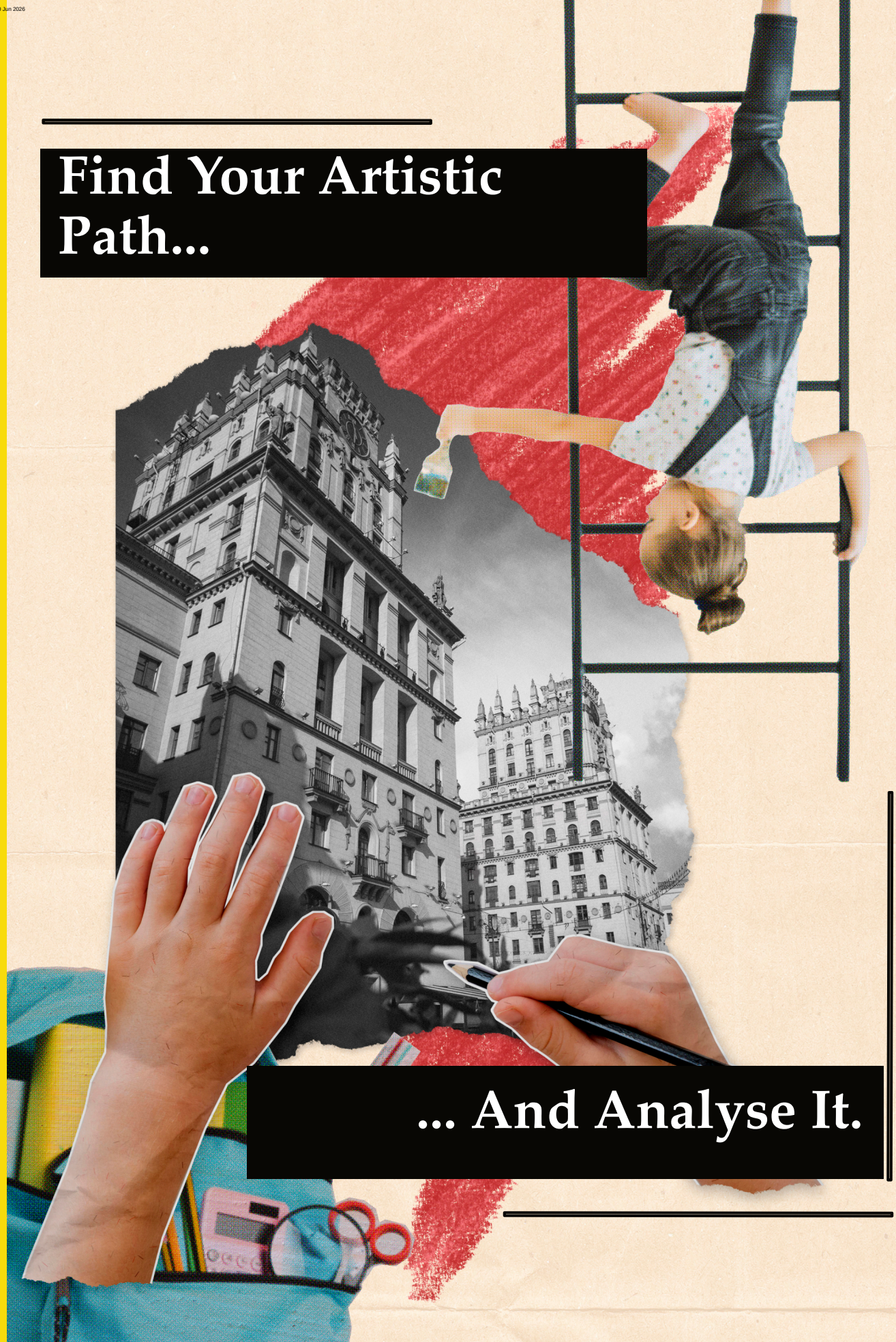
# Find Your Artistic Path...



# ... And Analyse It.

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# Day TWO

02

*"As you start to walk on the way, the way appears."* — ***Rumi***

**Step 2: Take another sheet of paper and create a list of the things you like. Don't worry about whether you can draw them or not, simply write down what you enjoy. It could be a movie, an actor, a singer, an object, an animal, or anything else you have an interest in.**

Now, I want you to take a piece of paper, whether it's lined or unlined, and place it in front of you. Next, think of something you genuinely like. It could be an actor, a singer, a specific object, an animal, a close relative, a hobby, a type of music, or virtually anything that brings you joy. But as you make this list, don't let the thought "Will I be able to draw it?" cross your mind. Just focus on writing down the things you love. That's all!

*Source: © Photo by Eduardo Casajús Gorostiaga via Unsplash*

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*Source:* © Kelly Sikkema via Unslpash

What are you waiting for? Take a piece of paper—quickly! Don't forget your pencil. Now, think and write. :)

**You can also make notes in this book on pages 64 and 65**

Have you completed your list? Good. Now, put that list next to you and focus on what I'm going to explain next.

First of all, you should know that before learning to draw, beginners often face a common problem. They want to draw something, but they don't know what to draw. Maybe this has already happened to you.

Whether this is the case or not, what I'm about to tell you will help you avoid experiencing this problem, which can be very frustrating and may slow down your drawing learning process before it has even begun.

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## So, how can you draw what you want. even as a beginner?

Not knowing what to draw... This is a problem that many people, even professional artists, struggle with from time to time. For professional artists, this may be called an "art block." For beginner artists, it could be something else, which I'll explain now.

### Know the difference between art block and what I call the "beginner's self-art blockage syndrome"

- **Art block** is when, one day an artist experiences a lack of inspiration and doesn't know what to draw or paint. Despite their best efforts to create one or multiple pieces of artwork, they are not satisfied with the final results. In other words, it's similar to an "art depression phase." Similar to depression, there isn't a specific time limit for art block to go away. However, rest assured that as fast as it comes, it eventually passes...

  ...only to return and annoy you again. It's just a part of an artist's process. ;)

- **Beginner's self-art blockage syndrome** is when a beginner struggles to find ideas to draw because when they start looking for inspiration on the internet, they subconsciously only seek and choose pictures that they think they can draw easily. As a result, they end up drawing something boring and basic, like a tree, random objects, or a sphere. Basically, they unknowingly limit themselves to drawing things they don't truly want to draw, simply because they think it's what they "should" and "could" draw.

## When it come to drawing what you want

**Drawing what you want; Here is the main problem (and its solution):**
Beginners tend to get discouraged because, at times, they want to draw "something," but don't know what to draw, mainly because they feel they don't draw well yet. They spend hours searching for something, but end up

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finding nothing interesting to draw, especially nothing they "think" they can draw.

If you are a beginner and face this dilemma, let me tell you something: One of the tricks is to practice drawing what you want to draw and not to limit yourself to finding images that you think you can draw or, worse, should draw just to learn.

Because, after a while, you may get bored, feel lost about what to draw, get discouraged, and might even stop drawing altogether, believing that drawing is not for you and that some people have a natural talent for drawing that you don't have.

Right?

If you think that way, there is a high chance, that you are mistaken.

**The real problem with this situation is:**

1. Drawing boring things because you lack confidence in yourself and your drawing abilities. Additionally, you may not have a teacher or someone to guide you and show you the steps to follow and improve to reach your real potential.

2. Feeling bored, discouraged, and wanting to give up on learning how to draw because you are not drawing what you truly want (even if you are unsure about what you want to draw). Moreover, you don't see any improvement due to the lack of guidance. As a result, you find reasons and excuses to stop drawing or learning how to draw altogether.

Do you see a pattern here?

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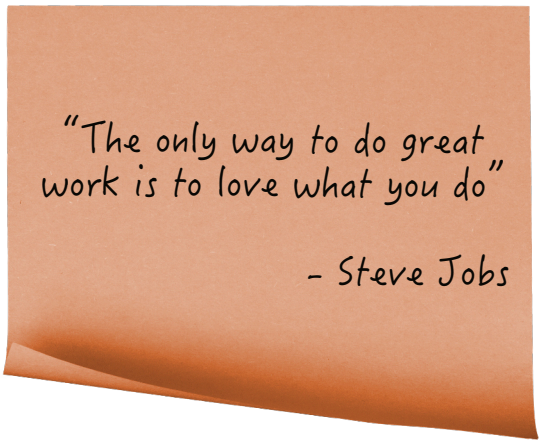
… because I do:

- Lack of guidance (no clear path, no instructions to follow).
- Not drawing what you truly want to draw.
- Lack of noticeable improvement or immediate results in a short period.

*All this equals = failure = you decide to give up.*

The real way to learn drawing, or to learn anything, is to have a strong desire and, most importantly, a genuine passion for what you want to learn.

As Steve Jobs once said:




If you have a strong desire to draw and a determination to learn, you're already well on your way. All you need is a guide to point you in the right direction. That's where I can assist you and provide you with shortcuts and tips to follow.

Don't worry, I won't keep going on and on about the fact that the solution is within you, that you need to be persevering, motivated, and so on. While those things are important, they aren't the only solution.

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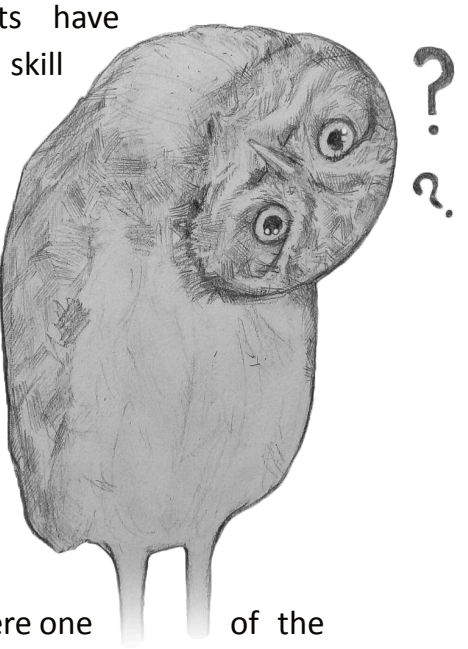
Day 2

## 1. The first things to acknowledge

The first thing to acknowledge is the signs of the Beginner's Self-art blockage syndrome. Now that you know what it is and what most beginners experience, you'll be able to recognize the signs and avoid them.

## 2. Knowing what to draw

Knowing what to draw can be quite daunting. I'll be honest with you; as a beginner, our drawing skills are lacking in skill and are unsatisfactory. That's just the truth. Almost all professional artists have experienced this stage before reaching their art skill level.



Some have even experienced drawing a famous person and feeling quite satisfied with the result, enough to show it to a family member or friend. However, they might find their loved ones tilting their heads to the side like an owl, trying to figure out the drawing. When asked with a forced smile what they've drawn, they may almost scream in response, "But come on, it's clearly Michael Jackson!"

This encounter might lead to a comical moment where one of the relatives is so shocked that while drinking water, he almost spits it out but manages to hold it in at the last minute. Afterward, there's a burst of laughter, an awkward silence, followed by embarrassment, and that's when they regret showing their drawing in the first place.

> Anyway... All of this is to say that if, as a beginner, you start by wanting to draw a celebrity, let's just say that the result will be... well... disappointing.

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But now you may ask me, "How can we draw what we want and like if we can't technically draw them?"

Well, you just have to be a little smart and see things... differently. The first thing to do would be to try the "Breaking Method", which I'll explain right now below.

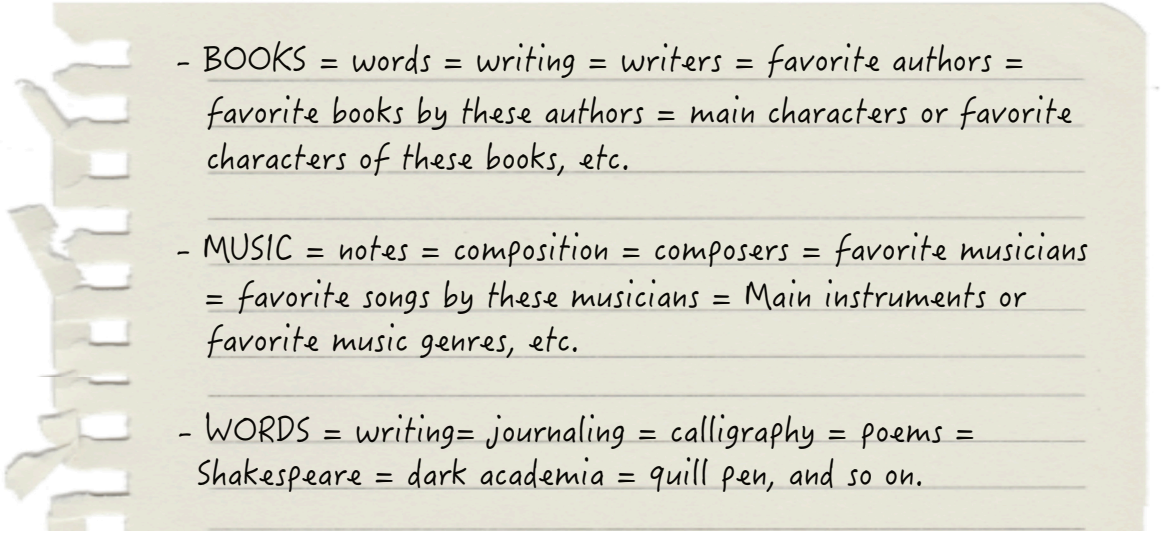
## The Breaking Method

Let's get down to business. No, we're not going to draw yet, but I'll show you something. Please go back to your list (the one where you wrote down everything you like), will you?

Since I can't see your list, I'll take a few random examples and demonstrate what I want you to do.

Alright, here is a method that will surely help you break down the things or topics you like. Below, I will provide an example so that you can better understand.

Let's say that in your list, you wrote the word "books" because you're someone who likes books, words, and so on, along with the word "music." So this is what I want you to do:



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Now you understand why I referred to this as the 'breaking method' because you have to break down a word to get other ideas. Here are some more examples.

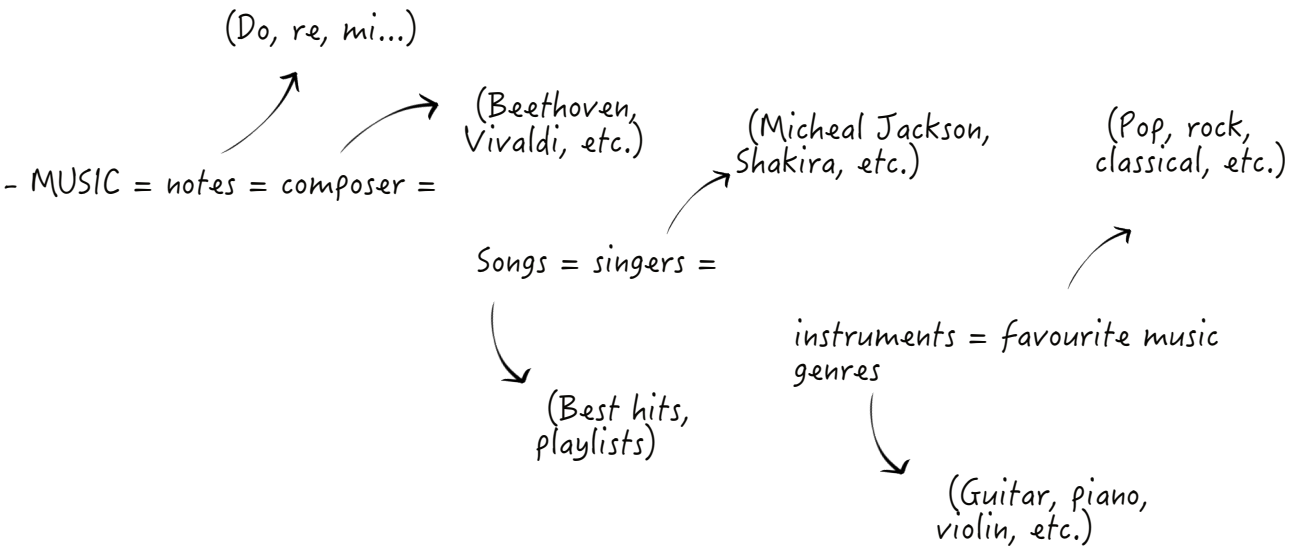
- OWLS = Bird = feather= wings= Silent flight = predators = owl calls.

- WINTER = cold = snow = snowman Christmas = holiday seasons = cold.

- HAPPINESS = smiles = fun = friends = family = hobbies = good times = laughs = love = success.

- NATURE = trees = flowers = leaves = rivers = waterfalls = forests = animals = fishes = oceans.

**You can even break down an idea like this:**



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# TEMPLATE FOR YOU TO USE

Additionally, to what I just showed you, you can use this template if you want to find and break down an idea.

**Think of someone:**

- Write the first thing that pops into your head when you hear that person's name. You can draw a facial feature or body part that you feel most comfortable drawing. For instance, if you prefer drawing eyes, find or take pictures of that person in different angles and draw multiple eyes of that person on one page.

- What are some words or topics related to that person? Name at least 5.

**Singer :**

- For a singer or singers, you can use the same template as “think of someone" and add to it this:

- Write your favorite lyrics of that singer.

**Movie:**

- Line or lines from the film.

- Memes related to the film.

- Character's traits in the movie.

- Something you liked from the movie.

- A specific scene you enjoyed from the movie.

- Write about unique aspects or elements found in that movie.

- Describe elements that only a person who watched the movie could understand.

**Additionally:**

**If you had to create a poster for that movie, what would it look like?**

## POP AND WRITE!

**Game for you to try:**

**Now, the best thing is not to overthink and write as quickly as possible a word that will be the main word/theme within a duration of 1 minute. Write one word at a time, whatever comes to your mind, even if your thoughts wander off-topic.**

**This can also be used when you want to write but have no idea, not even a theme or anything. In such cases, play the same game without a main word and write down all the words that come to your mind; you might be surprised by the results.**

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# Write your list here

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# Applying The Breaking Method

(With visual examples!)

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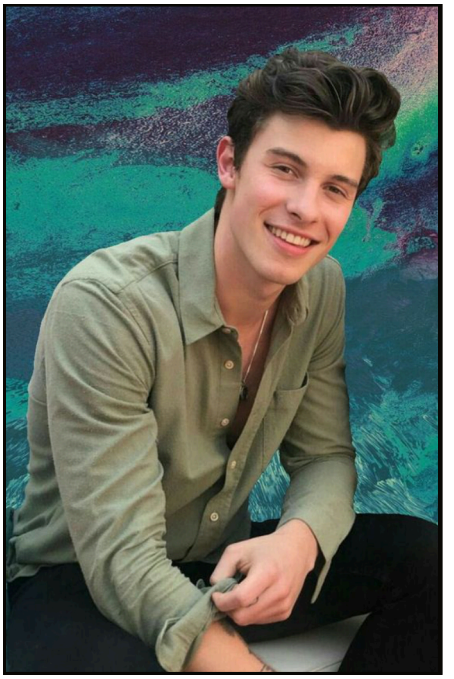
# Applying the Breaking Method to Your Advantage



Now that you've learned how to apply the breaking method, let's dive even deeper so that you can use it to your best advantage.

## Make things work best for you because you're the one in control

Okay, let's say one of the things you like is a singer, and for the sake of this example, let's randomly choose a famous singer like Shawn Mendes. So, as a beginner, you know that you would love to draw Shawn. You go on Pinterest and find pictures like the one below:



*Source: © shawnmendesgallery.tumblr via Pinterest*

Normally, in such a situation, you might either try to draw it and struggle, or you would instantly feel down because you know it will be impossible for you to draw this. Instead of getting discouraged, I am going to teach you some tricks to make this process easier for you and more beginner-friendly

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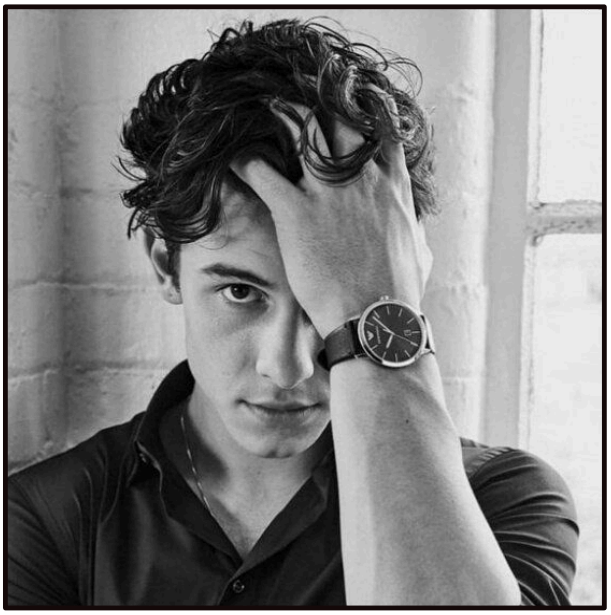
For instance, I've seen many beginner artists who practice drawing portraits and manage to draw the right proportions, but they often encounter a problem: they don't know how to draw the other eye. They can draw one eye well, but the other one doesn't turn out as good. It's a pretty common issue. The trick is to look for images like the one below that show only one eye, not random images like the first picture on the left page.



*Source: © Shawn Mendes & Emporio Armani via Pinterest*

This way, with these types of reference images, no one will suspect that you are having trouble drawing the other eye. Because you will only need to draw one. See what I mean now by “make it work for you“?

*Source: © Shawn Mendes via Twitter & Pinterest*

**Trouble drawing mouths?**

**Another example:** If you’re someone who has difficulty drawing mouths, then find pictures like the one on the right, where we can’t see the mouth:

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Source: © shawnmendesgallery

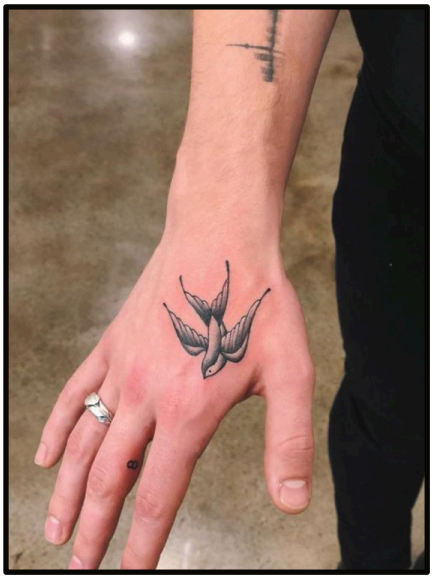
## Trouble drawing the eyes?

Again, find a picture that will work to your advantage. For example, let's say you have trouble drawing eyes in general; find a picture with closed eyes like the one below. Drawing closed eyes can be way easier, especially for beginners. Just make sure to zoom in to see the face more clearly. And therefore, choose a picture of good quality to be able to see the details.

These are just a few examples to help you understand how to pick the right images based on your drawing skills. If you don't know how to draw faces yet, the examples above are a great way to start practicing.

## Other options:

Another thing you can do, if you can't draw portraits yet, is to think of something related to "the thing you like/love." In our example with Shawn Mendes, you could focus on something related to him. For instance, Shawn has a tattoo on his hand, as you can see in the picture below. This could be your drawing idea.



Source: © Shawn Mendes' hand on Pinterest

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You could search for a drawing of his tattoo to start small. Even if the drawing is not of Shawn Mendes, you'll be more willing to put love and effort into your artwork because it's not just a random drawing; it's related to someone or something you love. This will help speed up your learning process in drawing.

**In brief:**

So, keep this in mind: The trick is to practice drawing what you want to draw and not just searching for pictures that you think you can draw. This is one of my top pieces of advice that will help you tremendously if understood properly.

*Source: © Swallow bird tattoo via Pinterest*

Looking back now at the list you made earlier, if you noted the name of a person or a group of people that you can't draw yet, think of something related to them and apply what you just learned today.

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# Buying a sketchbook...

## ...and how to fill it

Before day three, I want to inform you that from now on, you'll need to start using your sketchbook, as we discussed in the chapter 'Materials & Supplies You Will Need.'

In this chapter, I will explain how to organize and utilize your sketchbook to prepare for day 3.

Please note that the following guidelines are completely optional. You are welcome to either follow them or use them as inspiration if you prefer.

**Here are the steps to follow:**

**1.** Take your sketchbook and write on the first page: Sketchbook No. 1 and the current date.

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**2.** On the second page, attach the paper you drew on the first day, whether it's an eye, a house, a flower, a face, etc., to the sketchbook page using a paper clip. **(Skip this step if you've already made these drawings in this book and don't want to cut them from the book to put them in your sketchbook.)**

On the other page, you can write:

"How It All Started" or "How I Began My Drawing Journey" or "Embarking on My Drawing Journey Today!" Choose an opening sentence that resonates with you.

**3.** For the two consecutive pages, attach the other paper where you wrote your drawing list. **(Skip this step if you've written it in this book.)**

**4.** You can write a brief paragraph about what you want to achieve with this drawing book—where you are in your drawing journey, your expectations, your goals—or opt to leave it as is after attaching the two pages.

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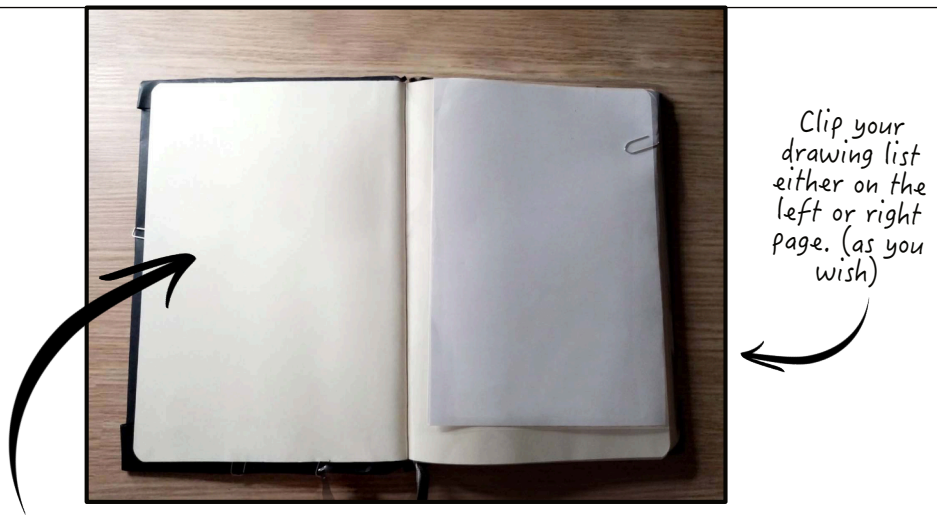
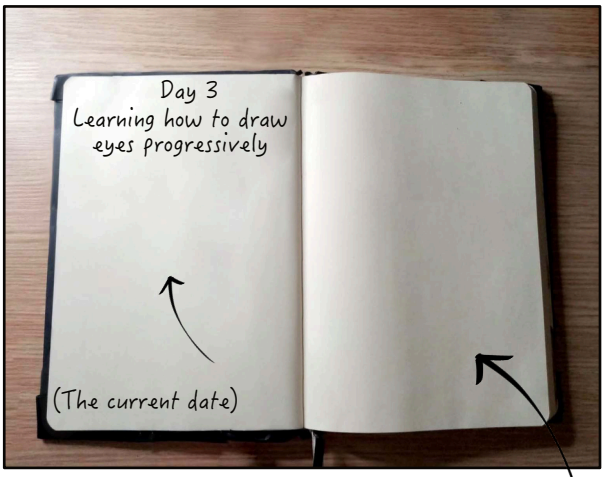



**5.** Remember, this sketchbook represents who you are as an artist, so feel free to fill it out and add your own personal touch to make it uniquely yours.

**6.** In the upcoming days, you have the option to either draw randomly on your sketchbook pages while following the chapters of this book, or you can organize your sketchbook into sections. For example, here's how you can approach "Day 3."




As you can see in the picture above, write the day, the date, and then provide a title based on what you'll draw. Note that you can also include comments next to your drawings.

**Finally, remember that all of these suggestions are optional and intended to provide guidance if you were unsure how to begin your sketchbook.**

**Whatever you decide to do in the end, one thing I highly recommend is consistently dating your entries. This way, you'll always have a record of when you created each drawing.**

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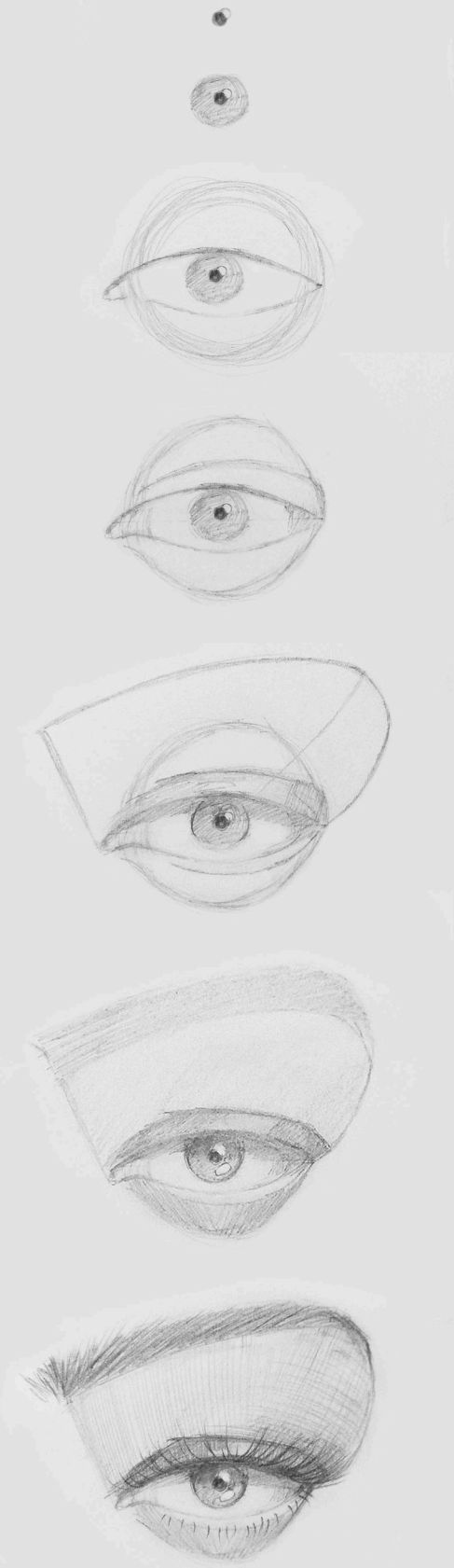

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# Day THREE

03

*"Small steps in the right direction are better than big steps in the wrong direction" — **Anonymous***

## Step 3: Learning how to draw eyes progressively

I believe that eyes can be one of the most satisfying things to draw. Drawing people and faces can be a bit intimidating, but the key to mastering drawing faces without succumbing to frustration is to start with simplicity and gradually practice and progress towards your end goals, such as being able to draw faces like a pro. Additionally, people who don't draw can be really impressed by eye drawings, so why not practice with that first?

**This lesson today will be divided into four parts:**

1. **The first section** will guide you through drawing an eye step-by-step using a reference image and teach you proper blending techniques.
2. **The second section** will teach you a simple trick that will allow you to draw an eye quickly and understand the eye's anatomy. It will be an opportunity for you to apply what you've learned in the previous section and draw an eye step-by-step without using grids.
3. **The third section** will guide you through the step-by-step process of drawing eyebrows correctly.
4. **Lastly, in the final section**, I'll provide a step-by-step tutorial of how to draw two realistic eyes at once.

Let's start shall we

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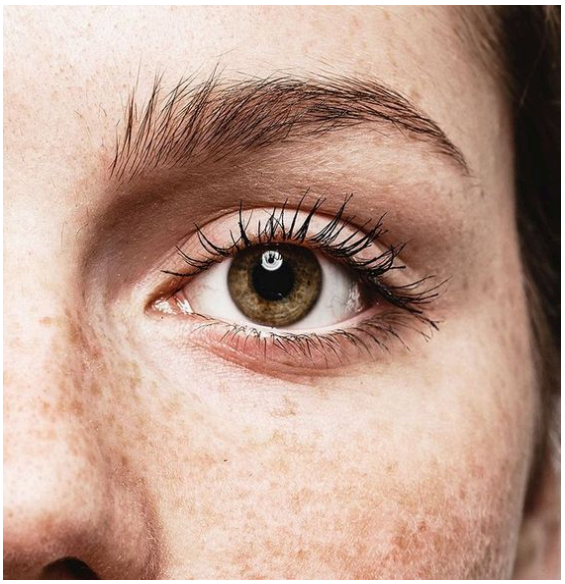
Day 3

# Your first grid image for you to draw

It's time for you to engage in further practice by learning how to draw a realistic eye.

1)

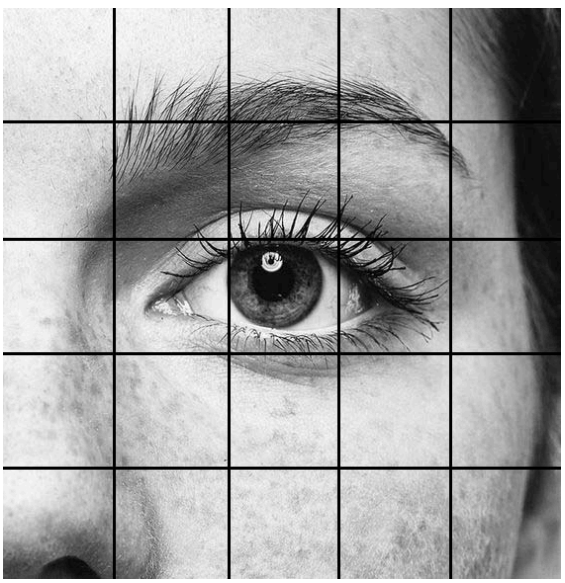


Source: © irina BG via Shutterstock

Feel free to select any eye reference picture that appeals to you. To guide you through the process, I've taken the liberty of selecting a reference for you to work with.

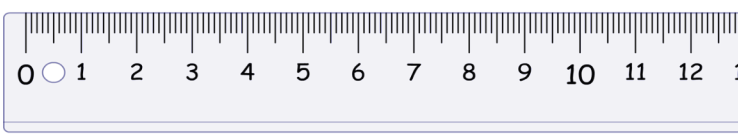
2)

After choosing the reference image, convert it to grayscale and add grid lines over it.



PS: The precise length of the grid lines doesn't really matter, the important thing is to maintain a uniform length.

Like so



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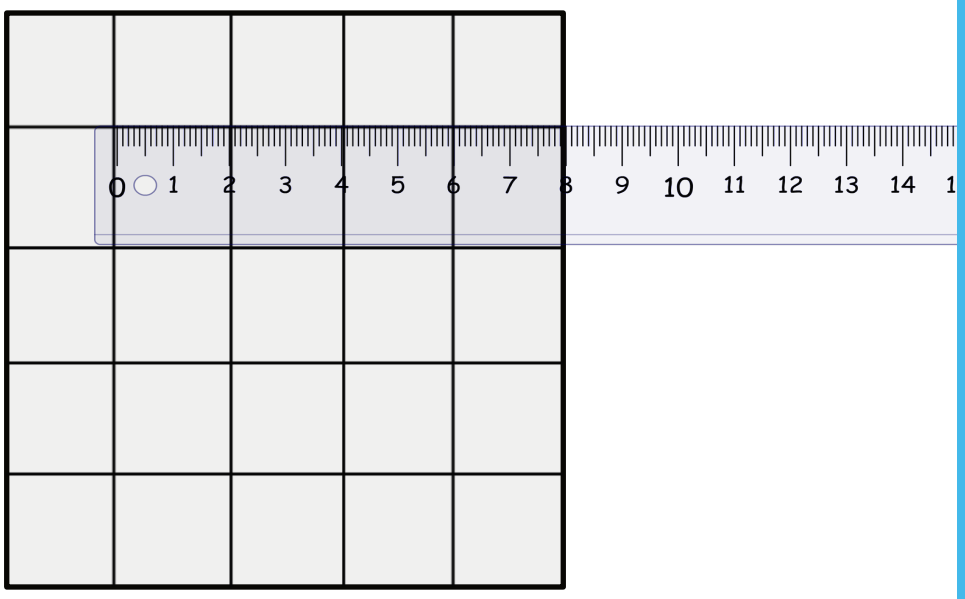
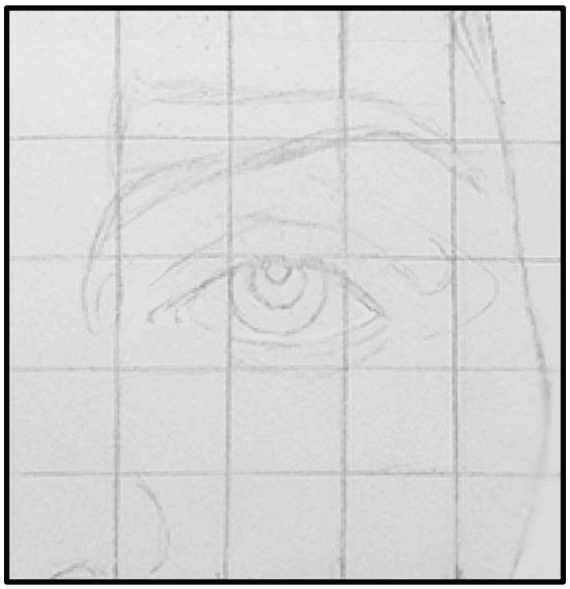
The first thing you want to do when attempting to draw this eye is to first outline the reference image, and then draw the gridlines with the same measurements you placed on top of the reference image.

**3)**




**4)**



To add details and refine your drawing, concentrate on one box at a time. Once you finish drawing one box, move on to the next, and so on.

**You can download this reference images for free. Simply go to : https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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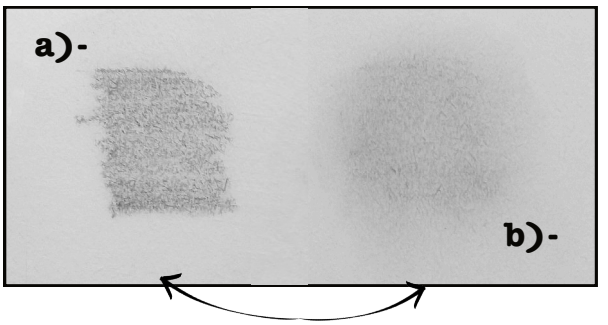
## (Details on how to proceed drawing your eye)

Day 3

Alright, now that you're familiar with drawing grid lines, let's dive into the actual drawing process. Here are a few things you should know as a beginner!

### 1)- Blending




Same pencil lines but B is blended

The only difference between A and B is that I blended the second one. How did I do it?

I lightly smudged the surface with my finger, transforming A into B.

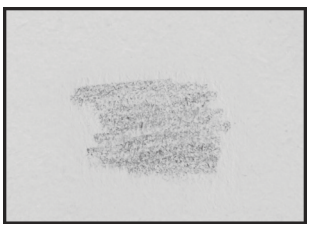
**Tools for blending:**

When working on larger drawings, blending can become quite messy, which is why there are alternative tools you can use for blending instead of using your finger. For instance:

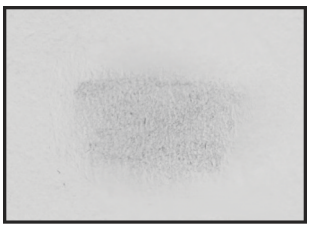
- A tissue
- A blending pencil
- A brush

As a beginner, using your finger or a simple tissue can actually do the trick quite effectively. So, start by trying to blend with your finger and a tissue to practice for your first drawings.

**Before blending:**



**After blending:**



This was blended with my finger...

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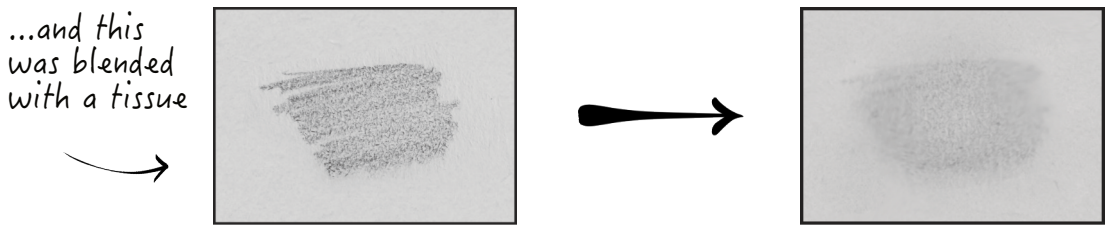
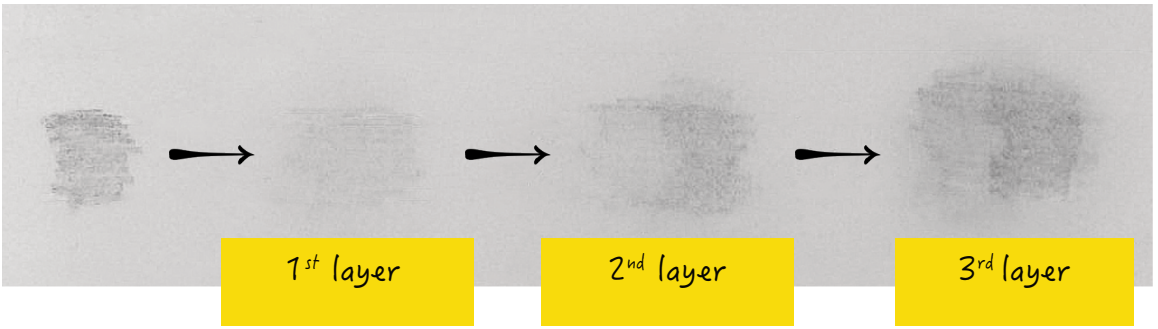


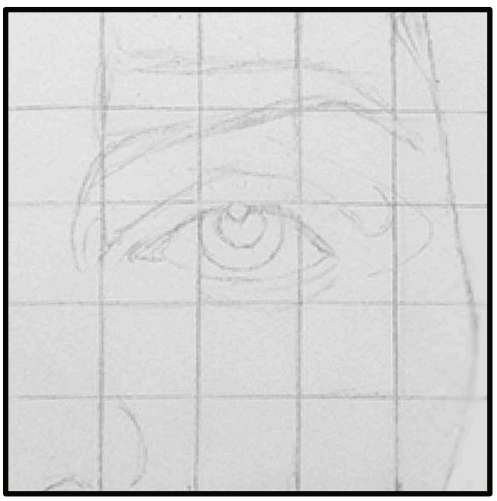

## 2)- Adding layers over layers




Similar to what we did in the previous exercise, start by drawing fine lines, then blend. Redraw certain lines on top of it in specific areas and repeat the same process.

Did you try it yourself? If yes, congratulations, you have just learned how to blend, add value, and create contrast in specific areas.

Now, let's return to our initial eye drawing.



As I mentioned earlier, draw the main outlines of the drawing, and be careful to not apply to much pressure on the grid lines as you'll need to erase them later on.

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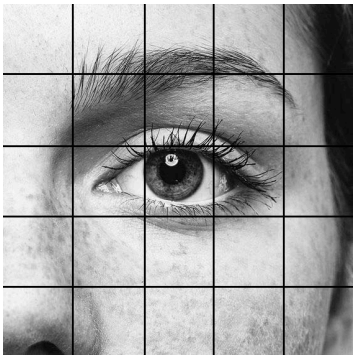
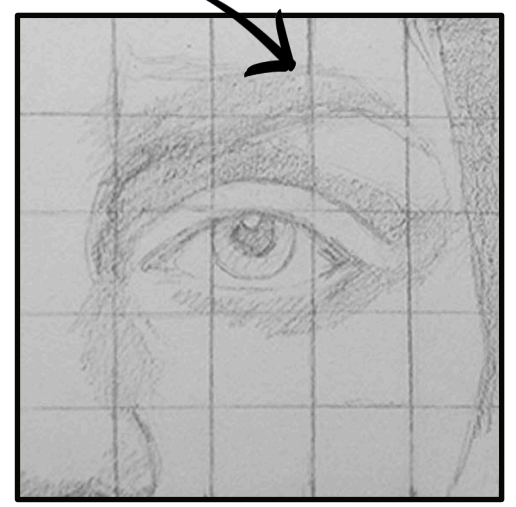
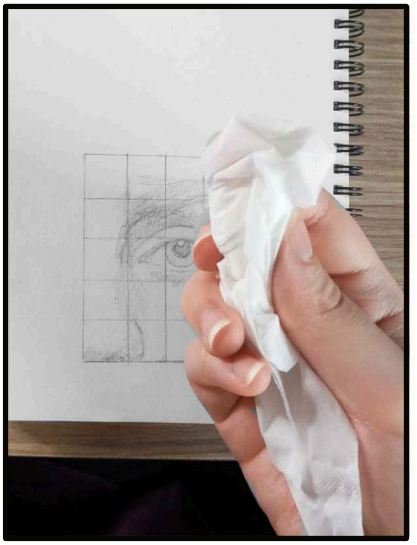




Begin by adding details through shading on your drawing where the darkest parts of the reference image are.

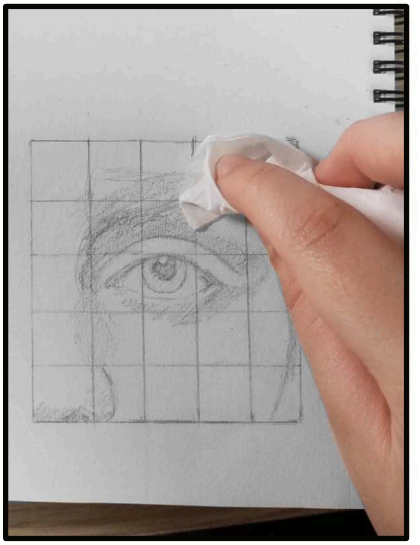
## Steps to Follow for Proper Blending:

1

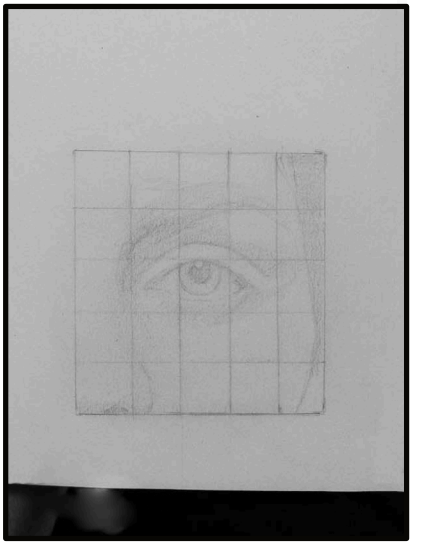


First, take a tissue and make circular motions with it on top of the drawing to blend everything together.

2



3



You'll know you've blended well if your drawing looks blurred like this.

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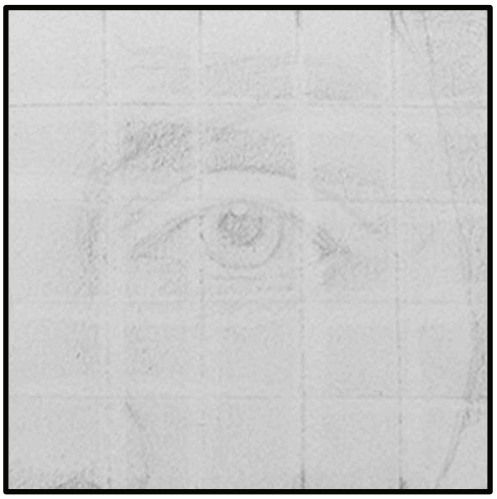
4

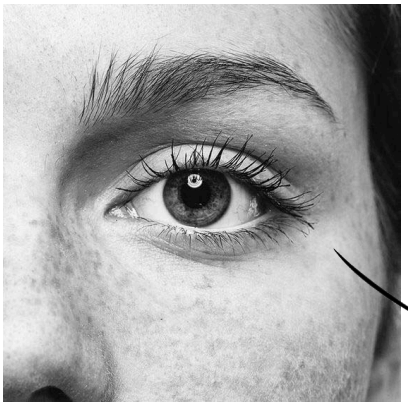
Now, erase the grid lines using either the tip of your pencil or a kneaded eraser.



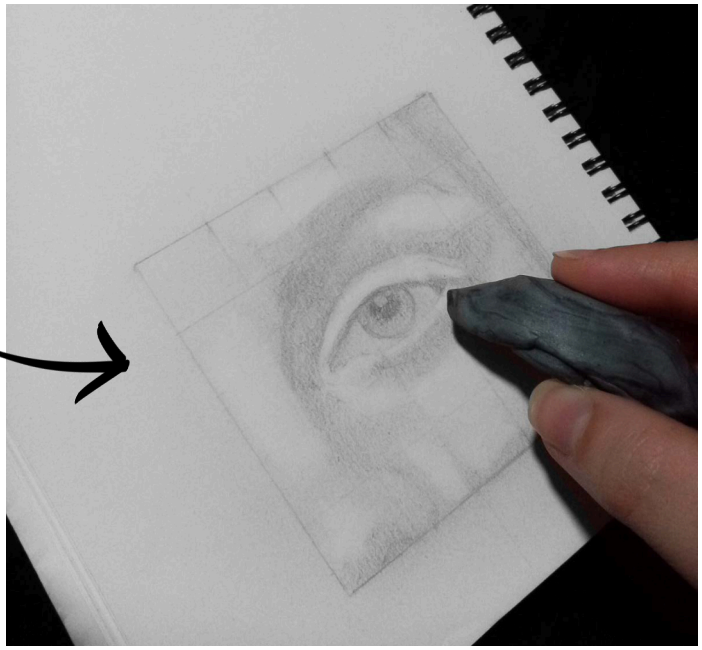
5

Then, lightly darken the darkest parts of the drawing as you did before and re-blend everything with a tissue until it looks like this.

6



Examine the light areas that you can observe in the reference image, and use a kneaded eraser to carefully erase and create highlights in your drawing.



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7

After erasing the light parts with a kneaded eraser, blend everything once again using the same tissue.

8

Proceed to add more details, including drawing in the eyelashes and the eyebrow.

9

Complete your drawing by making final adjustments.

And voila!

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## Important things for you to know:

### Why not draw the eyelashes from the beginning?

Because when blending, you'll smudge the area where you first drew the eyelashes. So, it will only smudge the upper part of the eye, which needs to be light. In addition to that, the eyelashes must look sharp and neat. That's why it's better to always draw them last when everything else is drawn.

### Is it necessary to blend with a tissue?

No, it's not necessary. As mentioned earlier, there are other blending tools available, such as blending pencils. Some people use dry paint brushes or even cotton buds (for blending small details). You can also use your finger, although the drawback with this method is that your finger may become covered in charcoal over time, which can be messy, especially for bigger drawings.

On the other hand, a tissue can be quite practical. It's easily accessible and can be used to blend both large and small areas of a drawing. Once it becomes dirty, you can simply throw it out and use a new one. Plus, many people have tissues readily available in their homes

Now that you know the various options for blending, feel free to experiment with different tools and decide on the one that suits you best.

### Why do I need a kneaded eraser? Can't a regular eraser do the job?

A kneaded eraser is an amazing tool for drawing and is really helpful for achieving effective blending. If you use a regular eraser to create highlights, you'll end up with multiple white patches. Even if you attempt to blend, those white patches might still remain visible. However, with a kneaded eraser, you can avoid this issue, as it doesn't erase everything completely, but rather in a very light manner. Don't underestimate the power of a kneaded eraser. Make some tests in your sketchbook and see the results for yourself.

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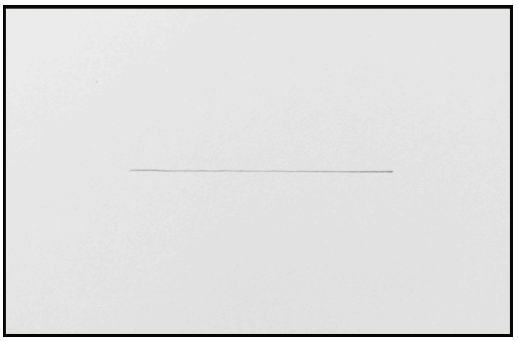
Day 3

# Follow this step-by-step drawing of an eye

Now, I'm going to provide you with a simple tutorial that will allow you to draw an eye without using grid lines.

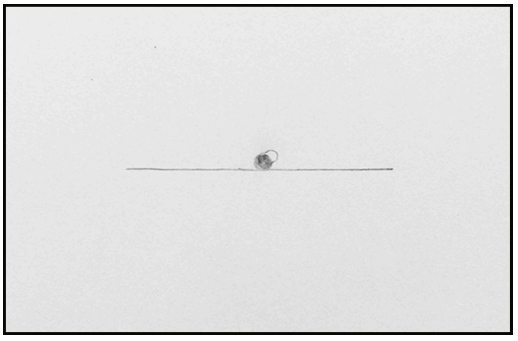
1

Start by using a ruler to draw a thin 4 cm line.



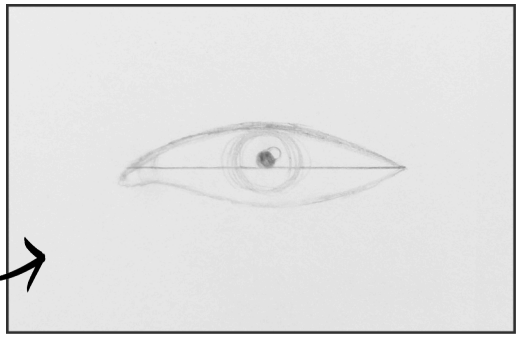
Note: Be careful not to apply too much pressure, as this line will be erased later on.

2



At the center of the line draw a little dot and a circle to the upper left of it.

Next, outline the eye shape by drawing a smooth curve above and below the line. Focus on achieving a balanced almond shape, and refine the curves to ensure symmetry.



3

Afterward, sketch a rough circle around the two circles to outline the iris.

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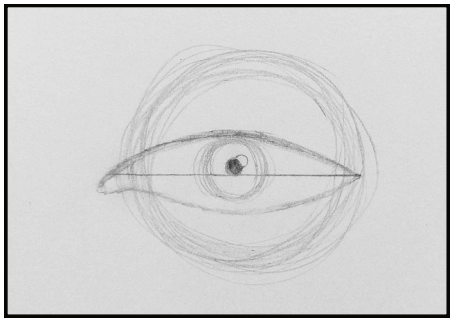
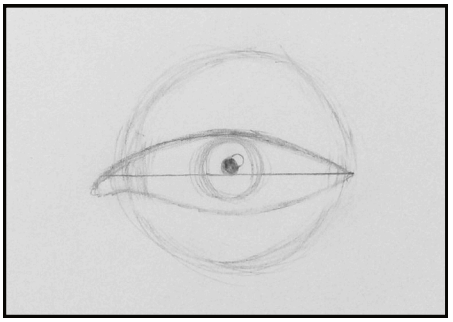
4

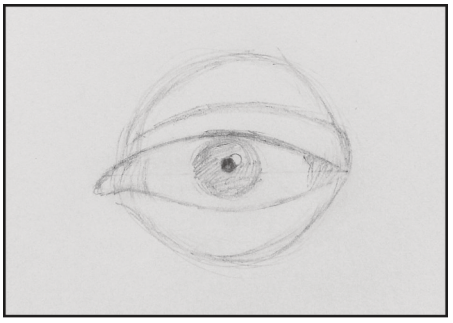


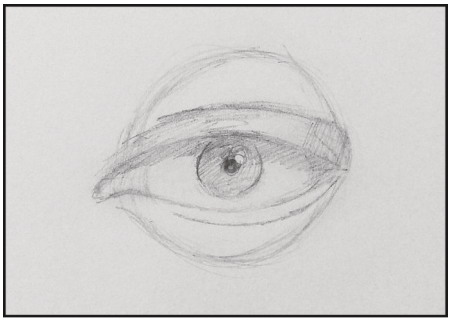


5

Then draw a rough circle, and erase the excess lines to make your circle appear more accurate as shown.

6





7

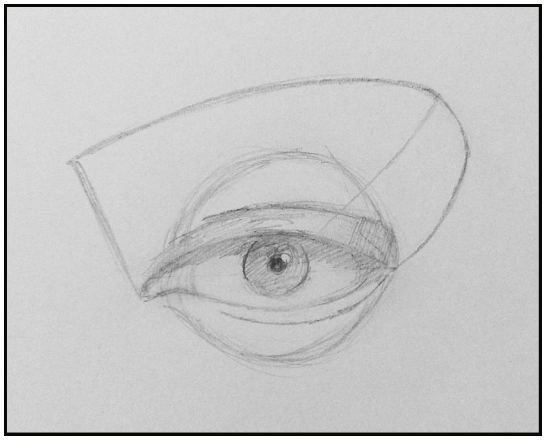
Add some small details to enhance the eye's appearance. Afterward, apply a bit of shading as shown above.

## Where to draw the eyebrow?

8

Some people struggle with determining the precise "placement" of the eyebrow.

That's why I'm going to provide you with a method that you can always use as a reference point.



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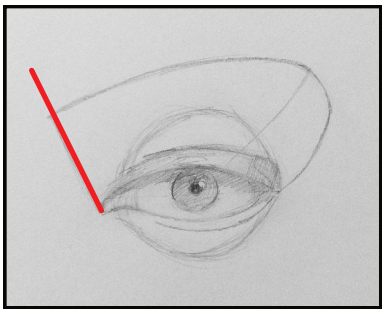
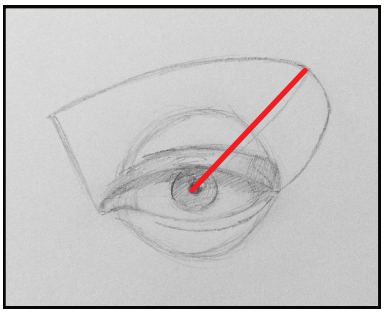
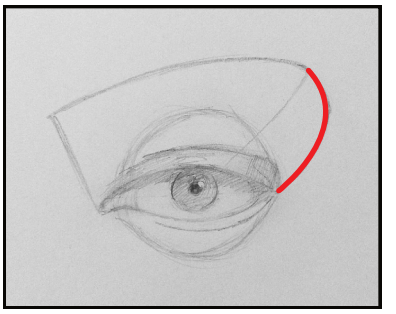
Basically, you'll always have to draw 3 lines.



The first line is a diagonal line that starts from the inner eye.



The second line is the one coming from the center of the eye. It indicates where the eyebrow starts to curve.



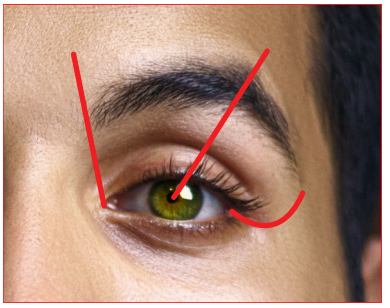
The third and final line is curved, and start from the right corner of the eye to finally connect to the second line.

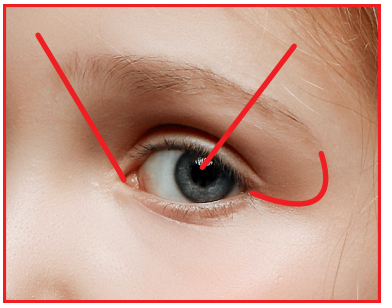
## Some examples so that you can understand better

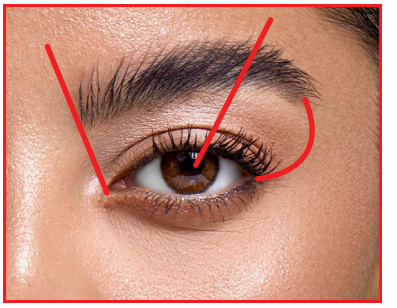
Source: © Ibadat Singh via Pexels

Source: © via Pexels

Source: © Milad Farhani via Pexels







As you can see, you can always find those 3 lines. By paying attention to them, you will find it easier to draw an eyebrow and even an eye.

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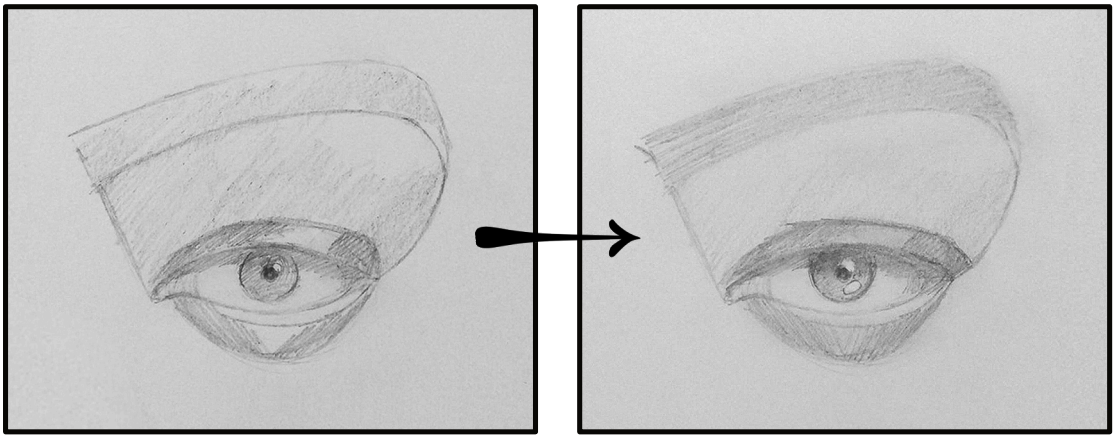
## Back to our step-by-step drawing tutorial

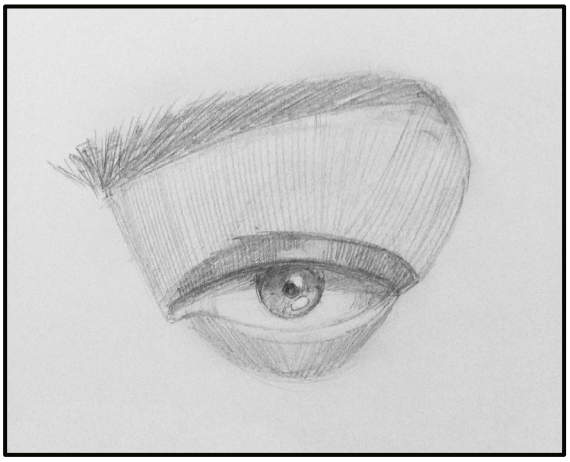
9



10

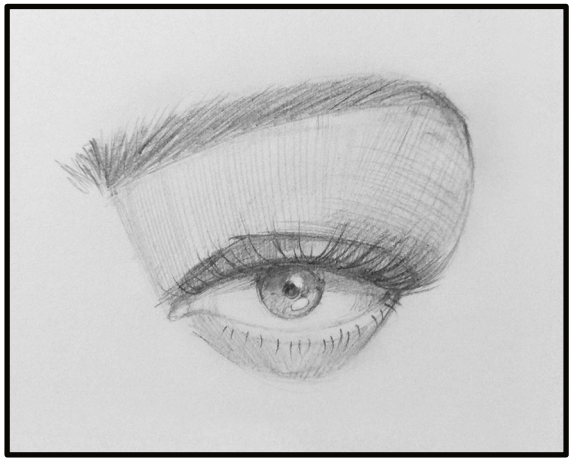
After drawing the eyebrow, add shading to your drawing as shown, and then blend.

11



Add some detail here and there without drawing the eyelashes yet.

Once you feel that the drawing is almost complete except for the eyelashes, add them one by one slowly.



12

And you're done!

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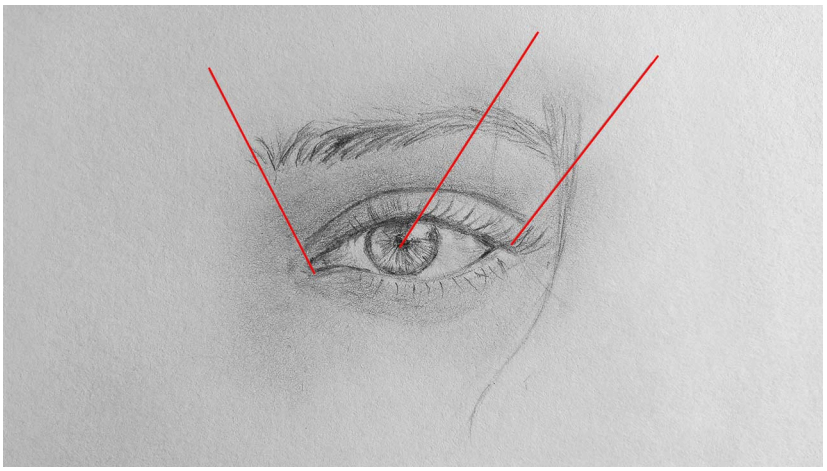
Day 3

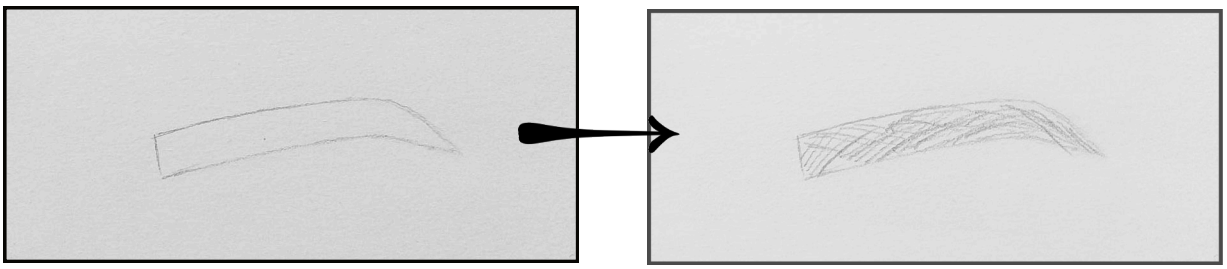
# Tips on how to draw the eyebrows

Always remember the exact area where to draw the eyebrow, as explained on page 88 and 89



Now that you know where to draw the eyebrow, let's learn how to draw the actual eyebrow step-by-step.

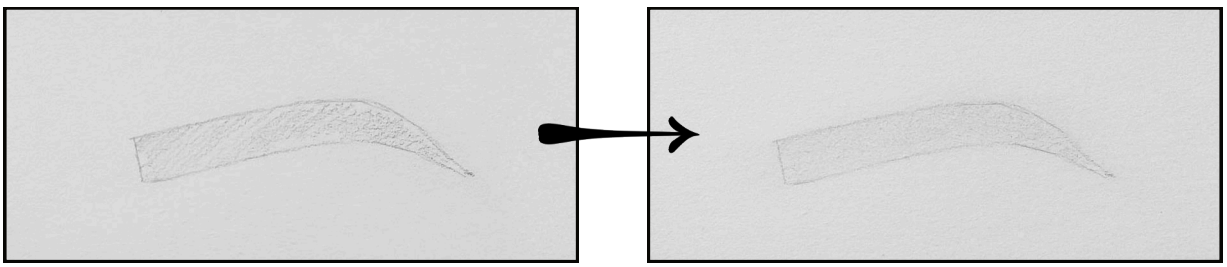
## How most beginners draw eyebrows:



After drawing the eyebrow outline, they often draw random lines to represent the eyebrow's hair, as shown above, which is not the right way to draw eyebrows.

## How one should draw eyebrows

Instead, what you want to do is draw the eyebrow's outline, shade it slightly, and then blend it using a tissue. That's the first step.



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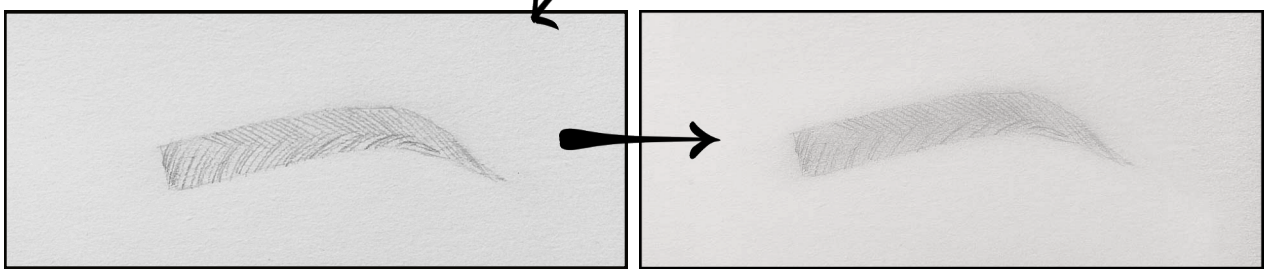
## How to add hair to an eyebrow step by step?

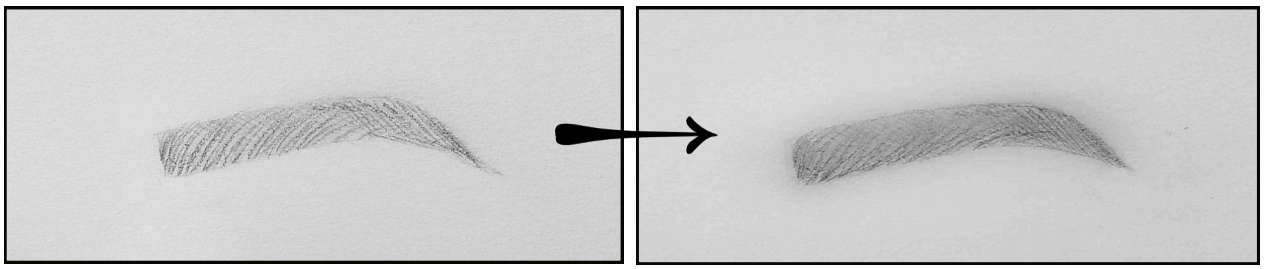
Within the eyebrow's outline, add small and thin hairs.

The hairs should curve outward and away from the left.

In the areas where I haven't drawn hair, proceed to draw hair going downward, as shown below.



Then again blend slightly to give this effect.



Once again, follow the same steps as we did in the first two stages, then blend once more. Repeat this process until you are satisfied with the results.

Lastly, add some hair strands to the left corner of the eyebrow to create a more realistic effect.

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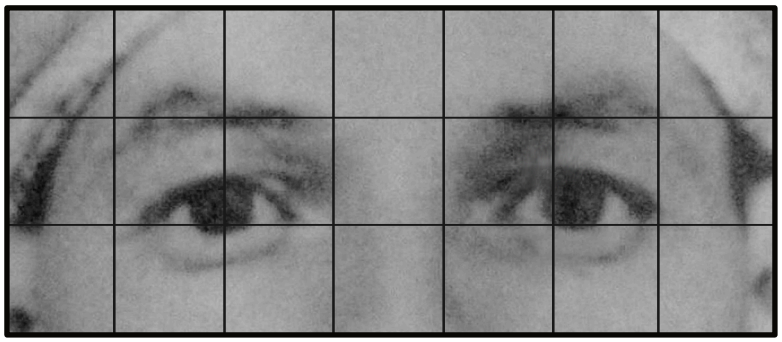
# NOW LET'S DRAW 2 EYES!

Day 3

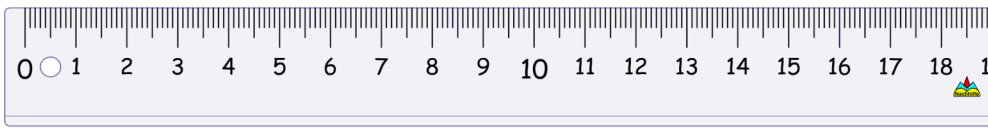
Having learned and followed the step-by-step process for drawing an eye and an eyebrow, I will now guide you through drawing two eyes.

This is going to be your reference image. (You can use this one or go to **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links** to print it)

To make it easier for you to draw, I added grid lines.

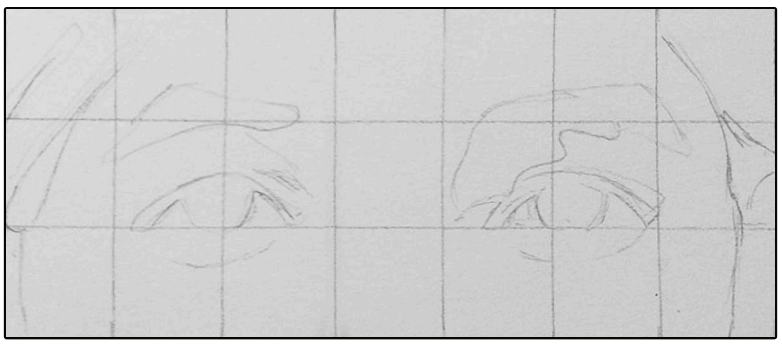


The first step is to measure the outline of the reference image.




Measure and draw the rectangle, followed by the gridlines. Once this is complete, proceed to draw the outline of the drawing.

1



Note: Be careful to not apply to much pressure when drawing the grid lines as you'll need to erase them later on.

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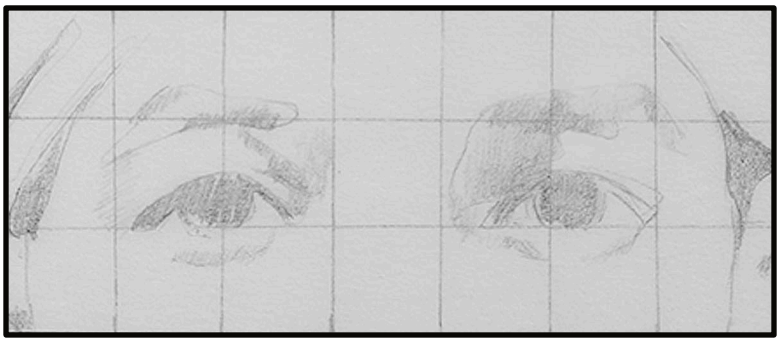
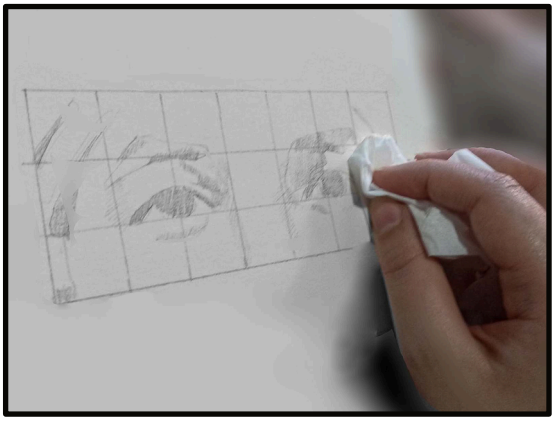


2

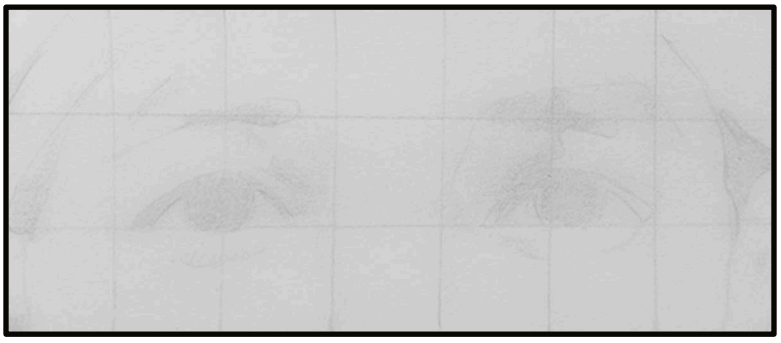


At this stage, take a tissue and rub it on top of your drawing until you achieve this blending effect.

3

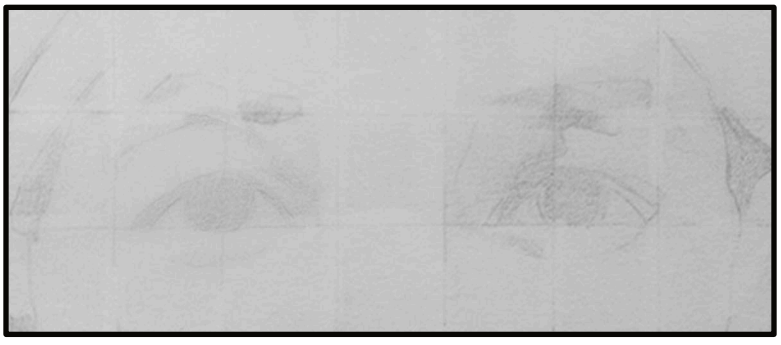
Don't worry about smudging the drawing, as that's the purpose of this step.

After rubbing your drawing with a tissue, it should look blurred like this.



4

5



Afterward, use a kneaded eraser to gently erase the grid lines, and then rub your drawing again with a tissue.

You don't need to completely erase the guidelines; they can still help you maintain proportions when adding details to your drawing.

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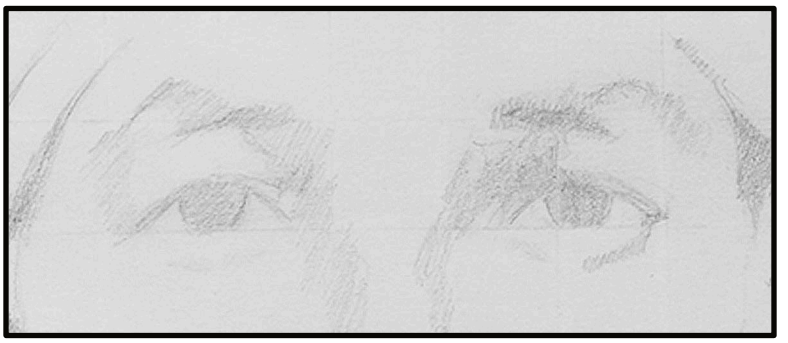
7

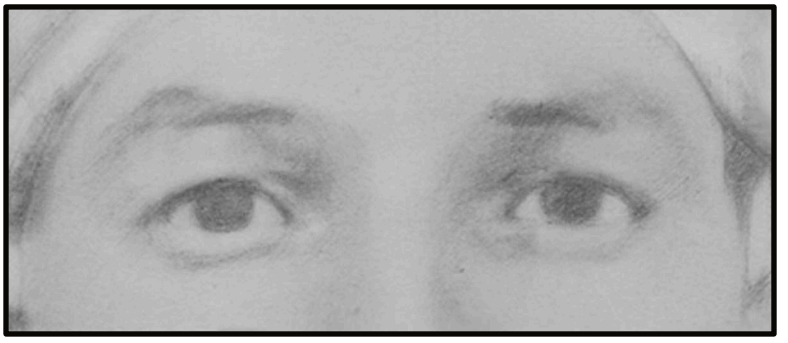


Then, step by step, add details to your drawing again...

... and continue to add details and highlights repeatedly ...

8

9



10

... until your drawing starts to resemble your reference image.

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11

And voila!

**Hopefully by now, your eye drawings must look way better then how you started on day 1.**

**Don’t forget you can download this reference pictures at:**
**https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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# YOUR HOMEWORK

## FOR DAY 3:

"YOUR HELP, GUIDE AND ANSWERS TO FUTURE QUESTIONS"

*After following the three first steps, do a little research online to choose and download the pictures of the drawings you like best.*

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# Your help, guide and answers to future questions

*"Let yourself be silently drawn by the strange pull of what you really love. It will not lead you astray."* ***— Rumi***

**Step 4: After following the three first steps, do a little research online to choose and download the pictures of the drawings you like best.**

In your spare time today, I want you to do a little online scrolling. How fun does that sound as homework? ;)

Your task is to search for images of drawings created by other artists. Whenever you come across a drawing that you find beautiful, cool, or impressive, download and save it to a folder on your computer or phone.

In this step, you will select different drawings based on your personal taste and interests.

## Where can you find drawings by other artists?

You have a range of options, including Pinterest, Instagram, or even just using Google Images. Choose any platform you prefer.

All you need to do is browse, select a few drawings, then continue scrolling, downloading more drawings, and repeating this process until you've gathered a certain number of images (around 20 or more) in your folder. Once done, set the folder aside for the time being.

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## Why you should do this?

"Why should I do this?" you might ask. (Or not ;)

This folder (on your computer or phone) will be useful in the near future. I won't reveal its exact purpose just yet, as it could influence the types of drawing images you will select. Additionally, you need to learn other information and techniques that will be covered in the upcoming chapters to understand the real purpose of this "homework."

Don't take this step lightly; it will be very important later on and will save you a lot of questions that an artist would usually ask.

So, as I mentioned earlier, after choosing your photos, forget about the folder. Towards the end of this book, however, we will come back to your file. We will get to everything in its own time.

Now, let's move on to the next step.

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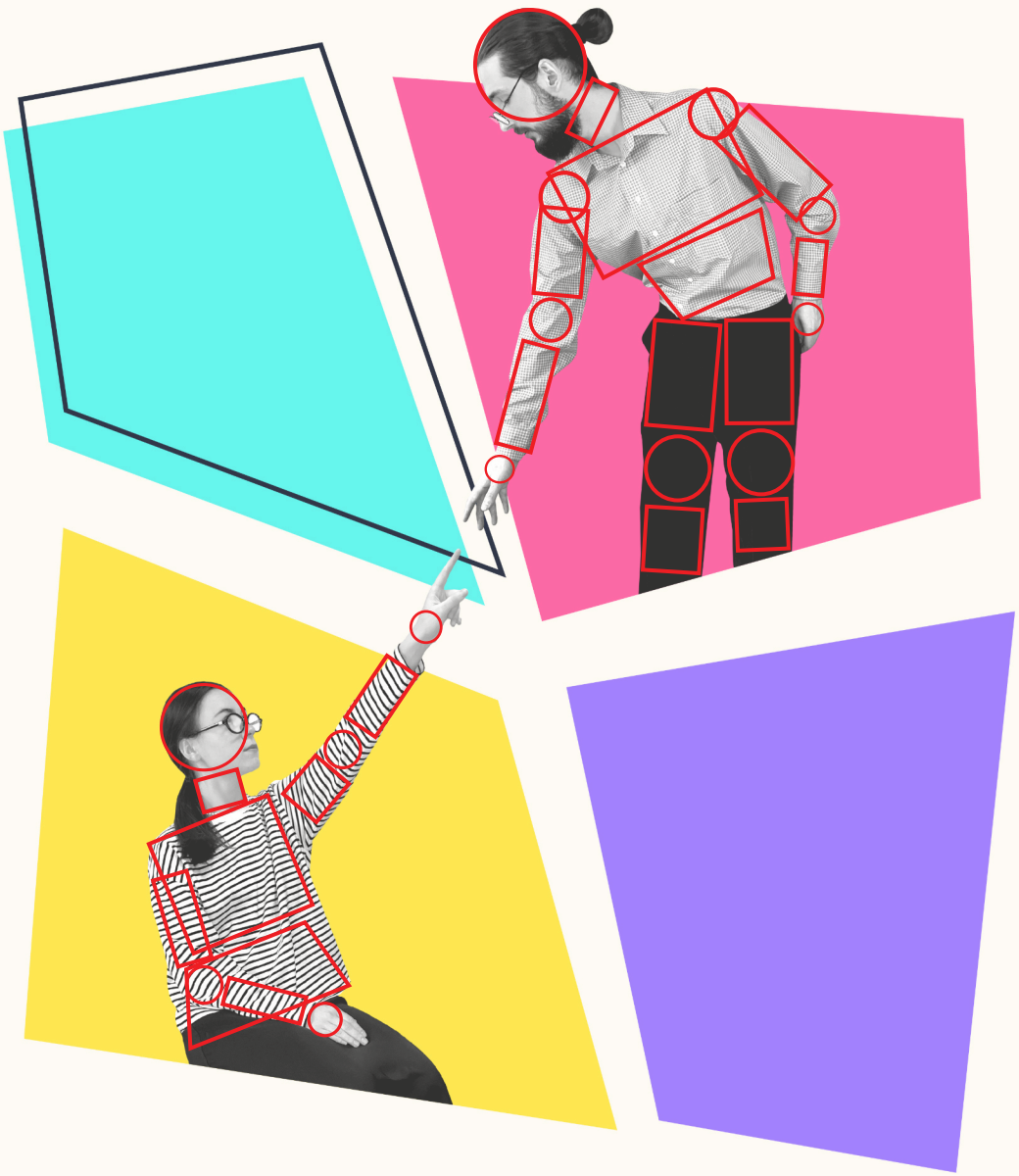

# Life is full of geometrical shapes

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# Day FOUR

04

*"The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes"* ***— Sherlock Holmes***

## Step 5: See things differently by dividing everything into shapes

As the title clearly states, life is filled with geometrical shapes that might go unnoticed if we don't observe them by paying attention.

Geometrical shapes can be found all around us; for instance, you can notice circular shapes like the sun and moon, squares and rectangles in buildings, houses, and window frames, as well as triangular shapes in mountains, and so on.

These are obvious examples, but there are so many more that very few people are aware of. Knowing them and learning how to recognize them will provide you with a solid foundation and make drawing easier.

## To help you better understand:

Anyone is capable of drawing a sun. But why? Because they know its shape by default. A house? It's the same thing; we all know a house is a square with a triangle for a roof and other squares or rectangles for windows. How to add

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details, blend, and make the drawing more realistic is another issue that we will cover in the next chapters. For now, you first need to learn the basics and establish a foundation by learning to see geometric shapes everywhere.

> “ Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else.”
>
> **— Leonard de Vinci**

Here is a brief paragraph from "A Scandal in Bohemia," a short story by Arthur Conan Doyle.

At one point, Watson was puzzled by Sherlock Holmes' deductive abilities. Sherlock took the liberty to reply to his partner that the latter sees but does not observe.

Since I find it highly relevant to our topic of the day, I've taken the liberty of retrieving the short discussion between Sherlock and Watson. Here it is:

- SHERLOCK: “You see, but you do not observe. The distinction is clear. For example, you have frequently seen the steps which lead up from the hall to this room.”
- WATSON: “Frequently.”
- SHERLOCK: “How often?”
- WATSON: “Well, some hundreds of times.”
- SHERLOCK: “Then how many are there?”
- WATSON: “How many? I don’t know.”
- SHERLOCK: “Quite so! You have not observed. And yet you have seen. That is just my point. Now, I know that there are seventeen steps, because I have both seen and observed.”

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Just like Sherlock, you need to learn to observe. You can and will learn to draw more effectively if you "unlock" the ability to see things not just as they appear, but as they are "constructed," by breaking everything down into shapes.

I understand that this might sound a bit abstract and vague to you as a beginner, which is why I'm going to demonstrate my point of view with examples and images to help you understand better.

## Example number 1:

Let's first start with something that is I think the simplest thing to divide :

**A House**

*Source: ©Pixabay*

That is what someone would normally see

In the following pages, I'm going to divide this image little by little using simple shapes such as circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares.

This is what I want you to see

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## Breakdown of the image:

### Rectangles and squares:

As you can see in the following picture, there are many squares and rectangles that can be found, such as the door and windows.

### Circles:

Now you can observe some circular elements, such as parts of the trees and the highlight in the sky, which resemble a dome-like shape.

### Triangles:

As you can see here, I've drawn some of the visible triangles in the following picture.

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**All the shapes together:**

Now, if we combine all the shapes that I showed you together in one picture:

Okay, let’s move on to another example where we will break down an image of a girl's eyes just like we did with the previous image:

## Example number 2:

### Girl’s eyes

*Source: ©Aa Dil via Pexels*

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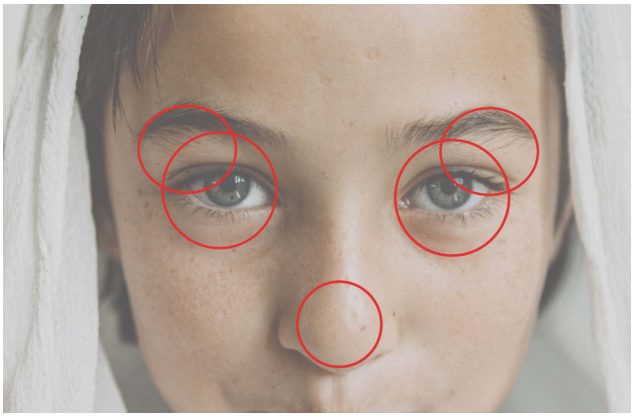
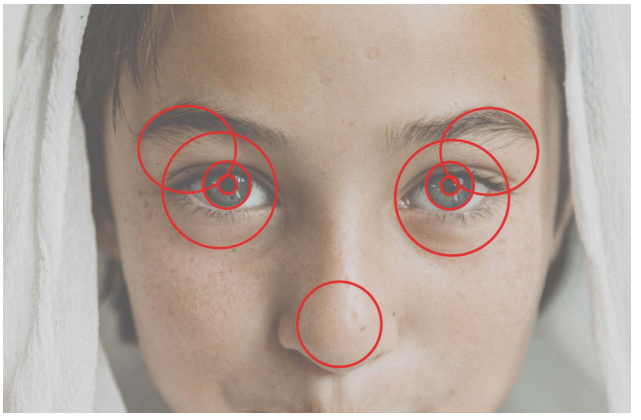
## Breakdown of the image:

Day 4

I didn't include all the circles, but I made sure to highlight the most important and visible ones. To make them clearer, I've divided them into two images and put them afterward together.



**All the circles together:**



**Circles:**

Now, for instance, if you intended to draw this girl's eyes using the reference image on your paper, before diving into any detail, you would start by drawing those circles. After that, you can add the other shapes like the triangles and rectangles that I'm going to show you now.

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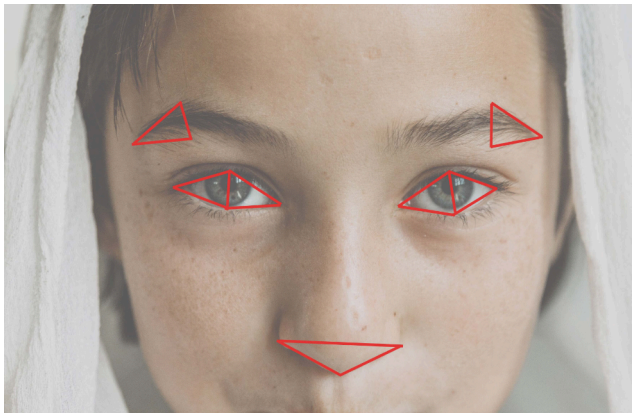
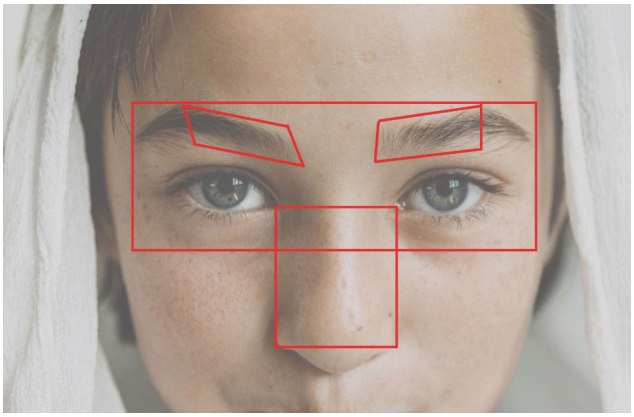
**Triangles**

Sometimes, you may find diamond shapes, which are essentially two triangles attached together.

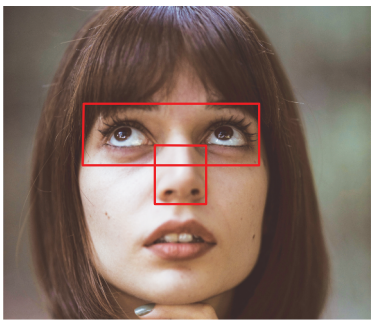




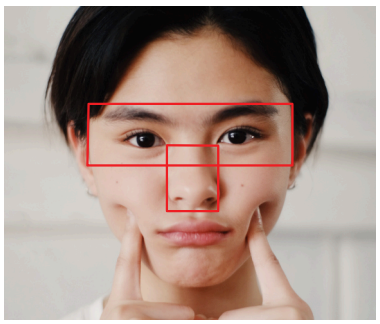
**Rectangles:**

There are not typically squares on a face unless someone has a square face or head; however, you may find some rectangles, as shown.

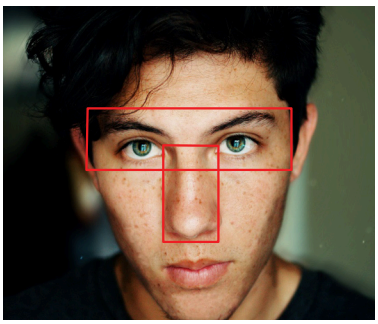
Something to always remember are the two large rectangles in this image. You may notice that they form a T shape. This T shape can be found on all faces, although its appearance may vary depending on the morphology.



*Source: ©Image by engin akyurt via Pexels*



*Source: ©Image by ike louie natividad via Pexels*



*Source: ©Image by Erik Lucatero from Pixabay*

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## Example number 3:

Day 4

*Source: ©godisable jacob via Pexels*

Can you spot all the geometrical shapes on your own?

If yes, congrats!

If not, don't worry. I'll show you right now how to break it down.

## Circular Geometric Shapes:

When drawing a body, the circular shapes will first be the head, hands, and all the joints like the knees, elbows, and ankles.

As an exercise, you can search for photos of people where you can see their entire bodies and draw, as shown in the picture on the right, the joints that can be represented as circles.

Of course, as we have already seen, we can also find many circles in a face. However, for this example, I wanted to focus more on the body.

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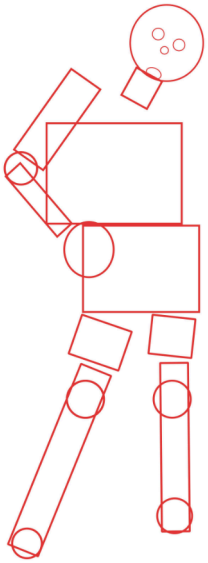
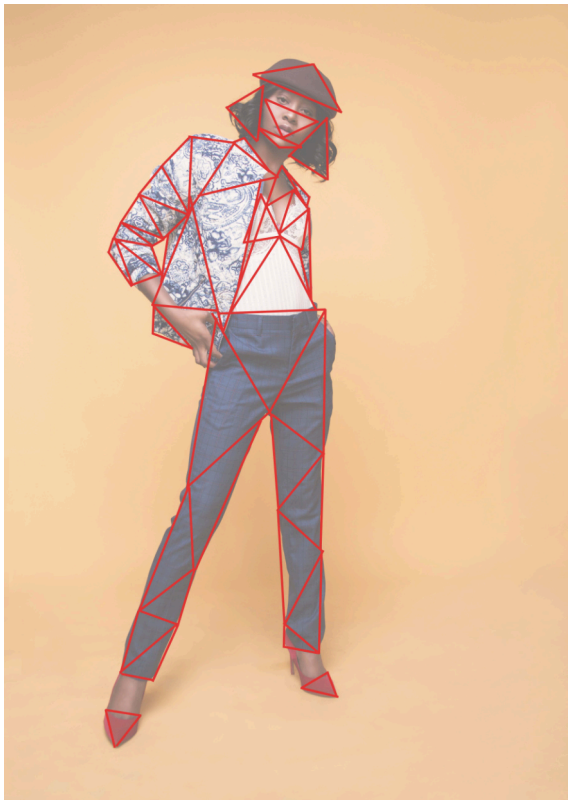
## Square and Rectangular Shapes:

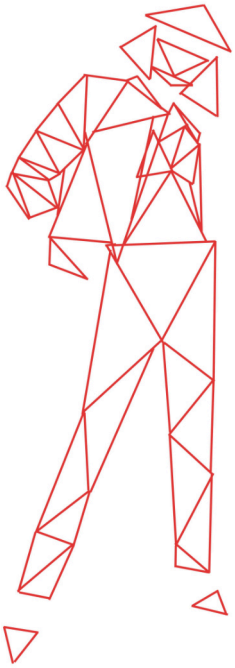
After adding the rectangles and squares on top of the circles that were drawn in step 1, we practically have the entire body's basic structure, as you can see for yourself.



## Triangular Geometric Shapes:



Here, I wanted to demonstrate how you can transform an entire body into triangular shapes, as you can observe.



**Note:** No matter your preference when it comes to breaking down an image, I would encourage you to experiment and always try to recognize any geometrical shapes, even when you are looking at people in front of you.

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## Example number 4:

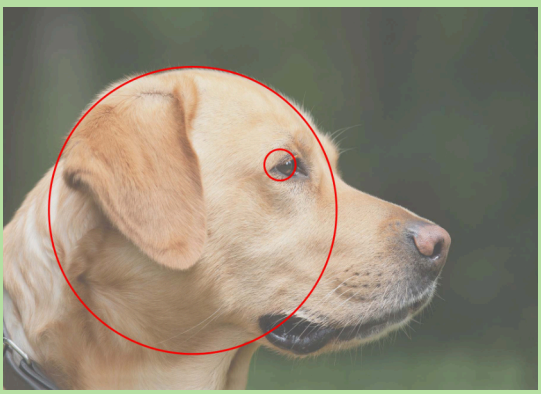
Day 4

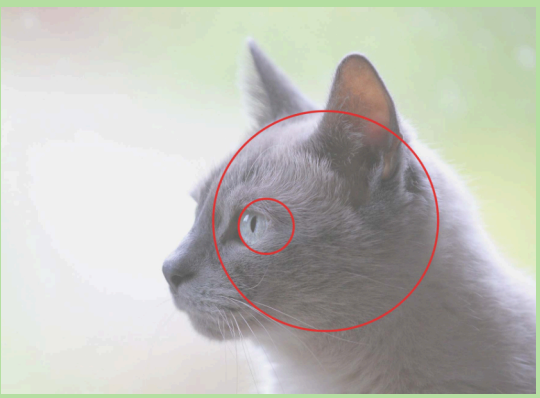
Now, I believe you are starting to grasp the basic principle of spotting geometrical shapes. However, I'm unsure if you can identify these shapes on animals. So, let's now try to find them on a dog and a cat.

*Source: © via Pixabay*

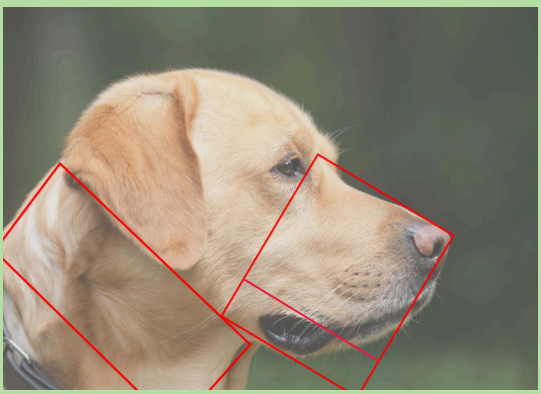
*Source: © via Pixabay*

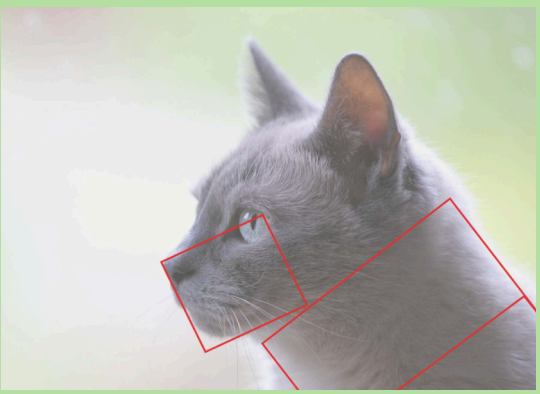
**circles:**





**Squares and rectangles:**





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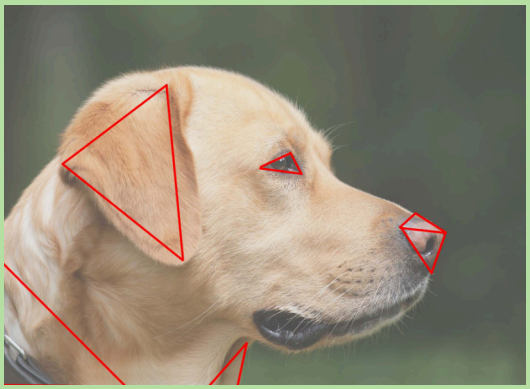
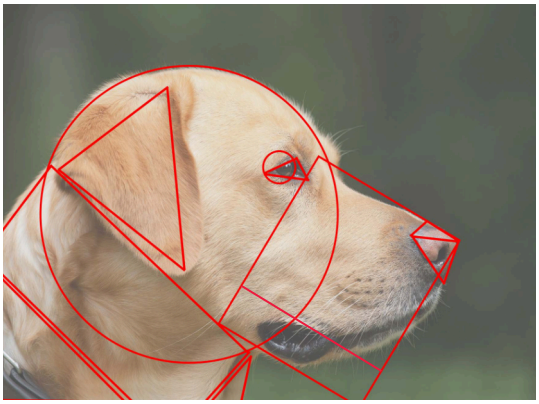
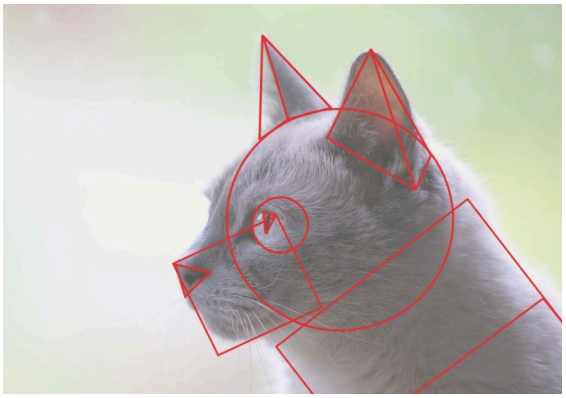
**Triangles:**

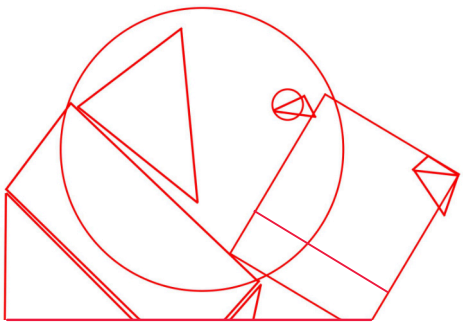


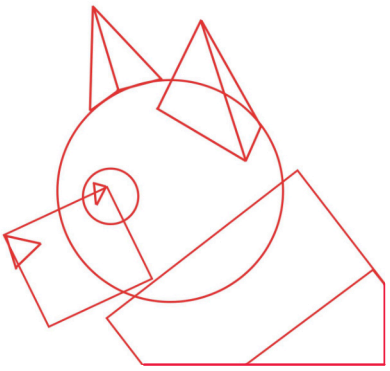
**final**



**final**







It's time for us to break down images of a full human face. Which unlike previous examples the face of a person can be divided in multiple ways.

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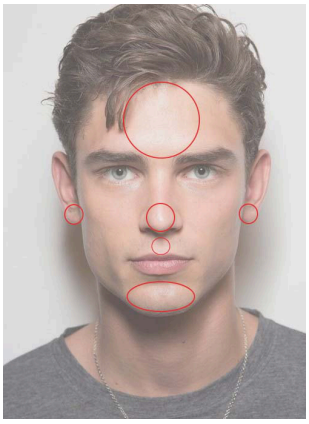
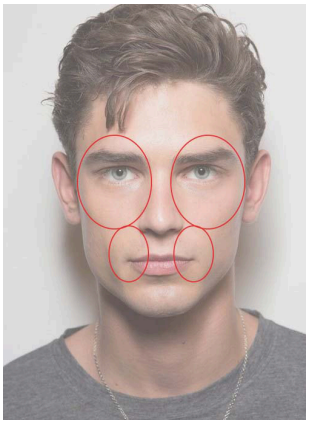
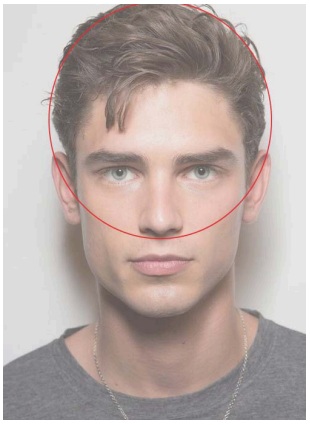
# Example number 5:

Day 4

## Circular Geometric Shapes:

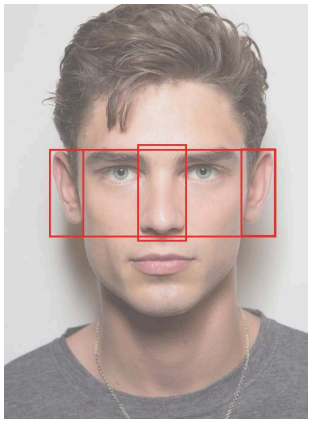


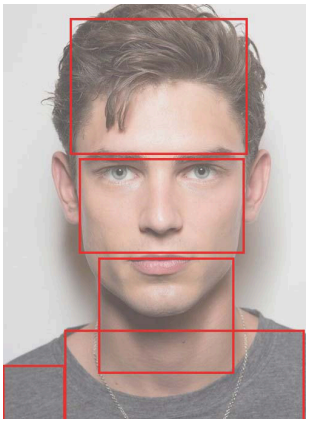




*Source: ©via Pinterest*

## Square and Rectangular Shapes:





*Source: ©via Pinterest*

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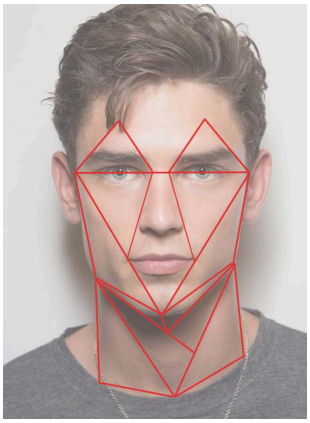
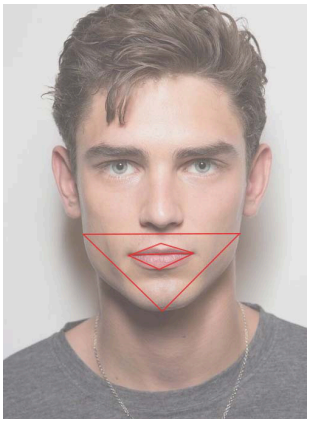
## Triangular Geometric Shapes:





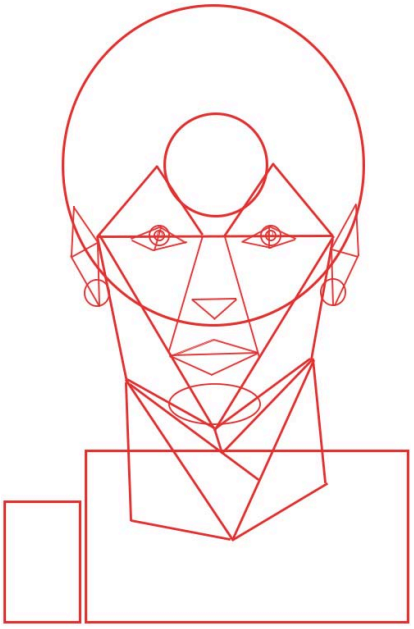
*Source: ©via Pinterest*

### Keep in Mind and Try It Out

A face can be divided in countless ways, so try experimenting to see what works best for you.

**Exercise:**

Choose a reference photo and attempt to draw only the basics and geometric shapes on a separate sheet of paper. It doesn't have to be as complex as the image on the right. Use only the main geometric shapes. Once you determine what suits you best, that will be your foundation whenever you want to draw a face.



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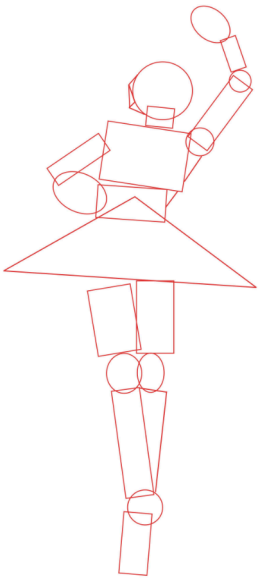
# Example number 6:

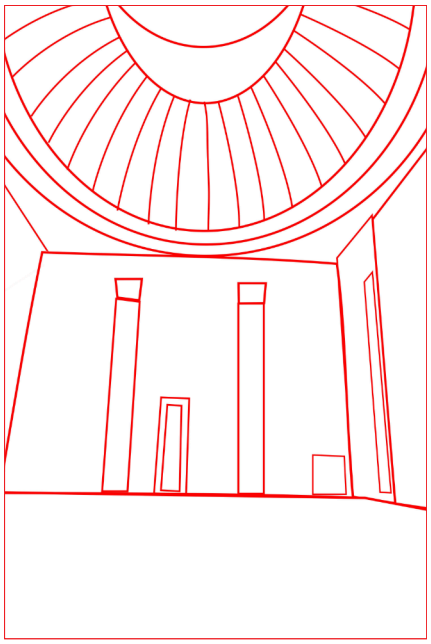
Day 4

In this example, I'm going to demonstrate how to identify the geometrical shapes in both a person and their background. First, let's break down the ballerina dancer. I approached this breakdown in the same manner as I did in example number 3.

*Source: ©Anastasia shuraeva via Pexels*

**Only the geometrical shapes :**





Now, if you focus entirely on on the background, you'll be able to identify numerous geometrical shapes as well. Always try to approach this by separating elements to observe them more clearly and one at a time.

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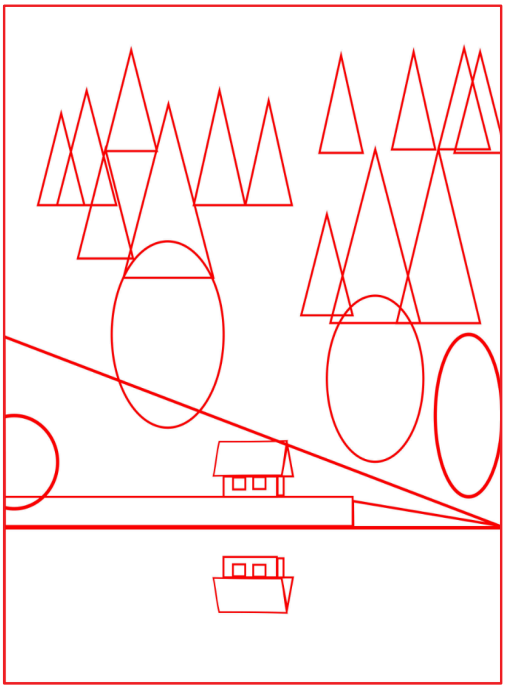
# Example number 6:

*Source: ©Luca chiandoni via Pexels*

In the final example of the day, I'll show you how to break down a landscape and identify its geometrical shapes. I haven't drawn all of the geometrical shapes, as there are many; I've only drawn the main ones to demonstrate the process.

**Only the geometrical shapes:**



You can clearly see that the main foundation of the reference has been captured, even though I didn't draw all the shapes present.

**At last:**

I hope that these examples were enough for you to have no trouble spotting the geometrical shapes that surround us now.

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## What's next?

Now that you have gained an understanding of how to break down an image and spot the geometrical shapes, you might wonder: "I now know how to divide certain things into shapes, but how will this help me learn to draw or draw better?"

Firstly, if I ask you to draw anything from a reference image, you might find it challenging. However, if I ask you to draw the shapes you observe, it will be much easier now. Your drawing will be more structured, and that's why this technique is truly valuable. This is one of the tricks that artists often use.

Therefore, this is not a step to skip; you need to practice to become very skilled at identifying geometrical shapes in any image, to the extent that it becomes second nature. When you look at an image, you should automatically see the geometrical shapes that are just waiting to be drawn.

"The ability to draw depends on one's ability to see the way an artist sees." - Betty Edwards

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# Your HOMEWORK of the day

## What I Want You To Do:

To help you improve in this skill, I have two pieces of advice for you:

**1.** I recommend that you take pictures of your surroundings, whether indoors or outdoors, or both. After taking a few pictures, try to break them down into shapes as I demonstrated in today's lesson.

**2.** The second piece of advice is to practice extensively. To help you further, I've provided several images on the next pages for you to practice with.

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# Find the geometrical shapes in the following pictures:

*Source: ©Image of a parrot via Pexels*

*Source: ©Ana Bregantin via Pexels*

*Source: ©Anton Imbro via Pexels*

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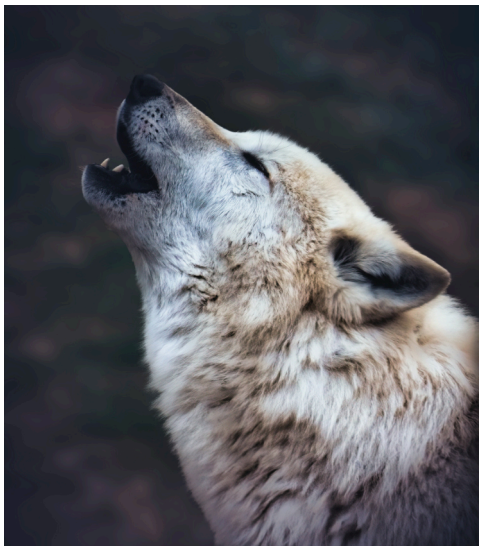
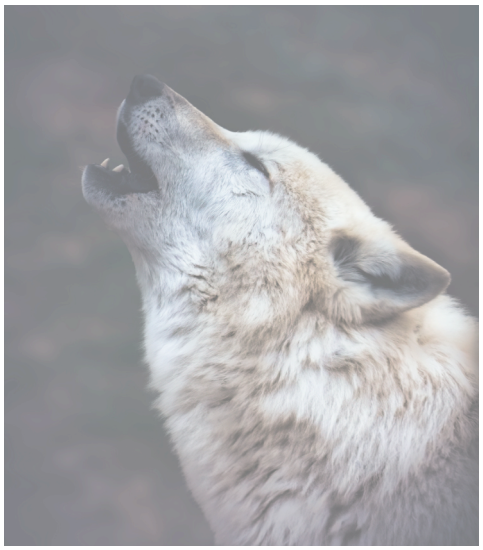
*Source: ©Edgar Martínez via Pexels*





*Source: ©Jesús Esteban San José via Pexels*

*Source: ©Erik Mclean via Pexels*

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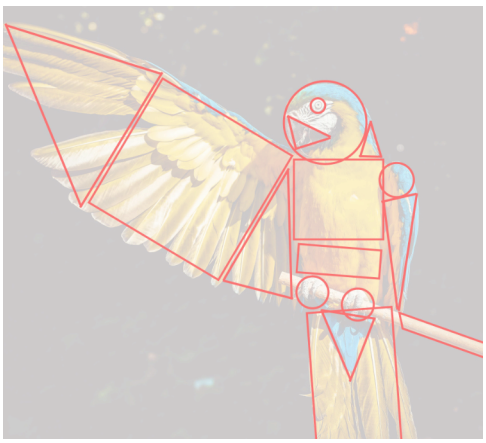
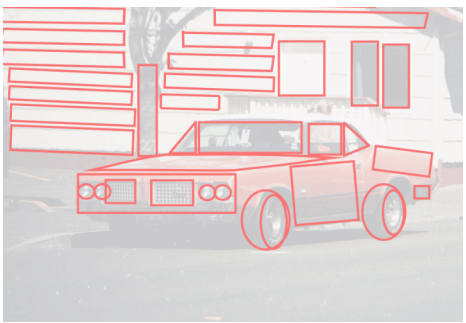
# Solutions of day four's exercise:



*Source: ©Image of a parrot via Pexels*

*Source: ©Ana Bregantin via Pexels*



*Source: ©Anton Imbro via Pexels*

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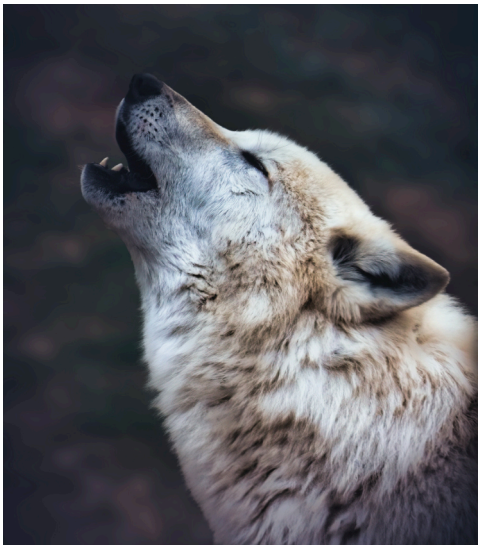
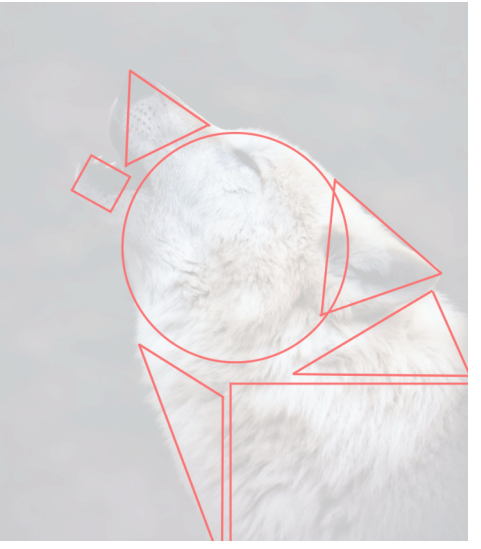
*Source: ©Edgar Martínez via Pexels*





*Source: ©Jesús Esteban San José via Pexels*

*Source: ©Erik Mclean via Pexels*

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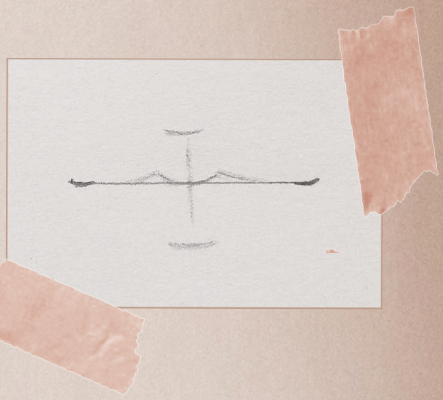
Drawing the facial features and knowing their proportions,



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# Day five

05

*"Do not get overwhelmed by the entire staircase. Just focus on the first step! One step at a time"* ***— Joe Girard***

**Step 6: Today you'll learn how to draw the other facial features and their proportions.**

On the third day, I showed you how to draw eyes. Today, you will learn how to draw the other facial features: the nose, the mouth, and the ears.

In the first section of this lesson, I will provide you with gridline images of noses, ears, and mouths from different angles. I will even guide you through the process step-by-step.

At the end of this chapter, I will also explain how to draw a complete face and how to understand the basic head proportions when drawing a head, step by step. This will enable you to grasp how to draw a face and, of course, be capable of drawing it on your own afterward. It might seem challenging at first, but it's not overly complicated. Once you have a grasp of the fundamentals; you just need to know them and give it a try.

Now, let's move on to the practical aspect and begin by learning how to draw the nose step-by-step!

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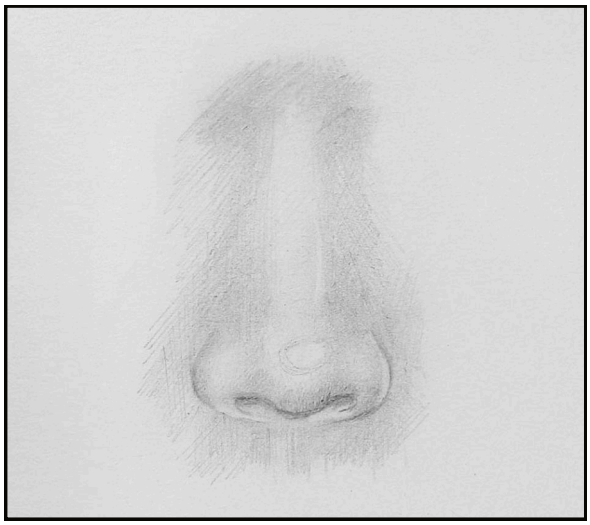
# How to Draw a Nose Step-By-Step



Your first step today will be to learn how to draw a nose. Like the other facial features we'll cover later on, I will first show you how to draw it step by step. Then, so you can further practice, I will provide you with reference images of the specific facial feature you've learned to draw in various angles.

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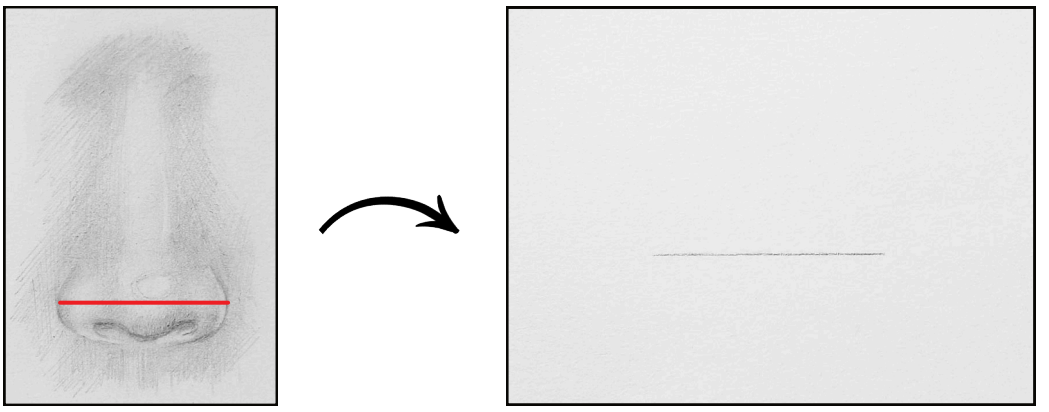
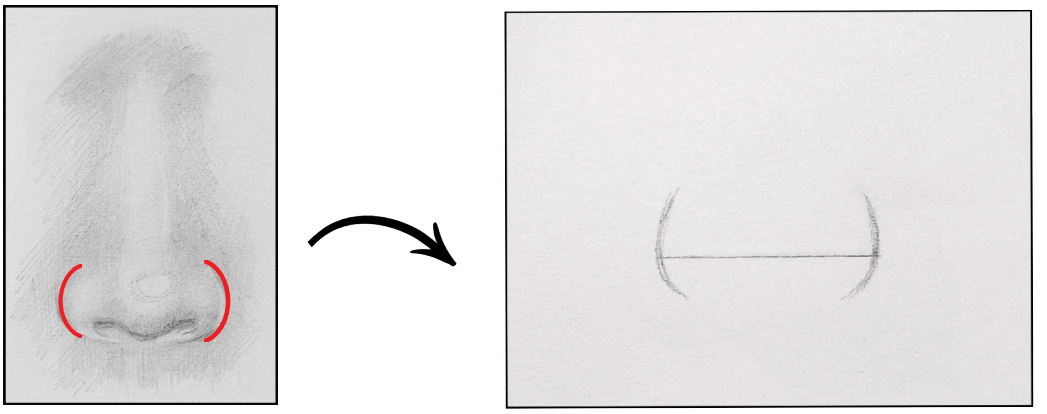
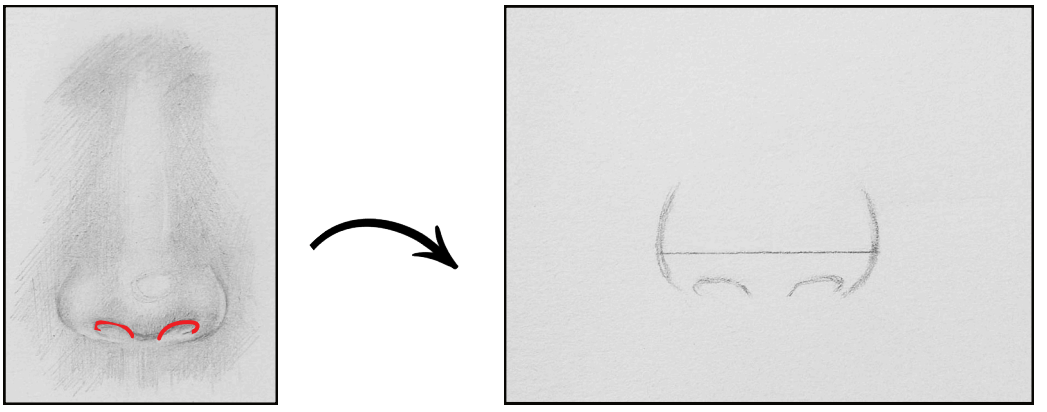
1 Start by drawing a 4 cm line but don't apply too much pressure with your pencil as it will be erased later on.



Then, draw parentheses around that line like so. 2



3 Now, draw the nostrils.



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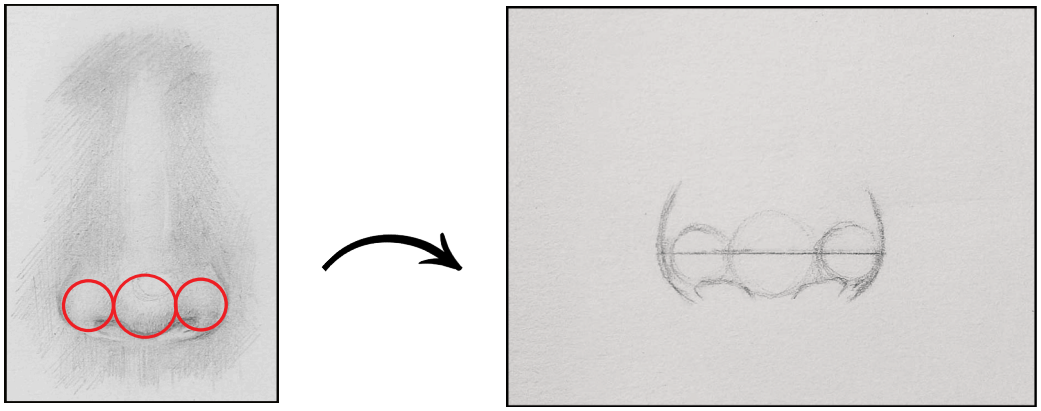
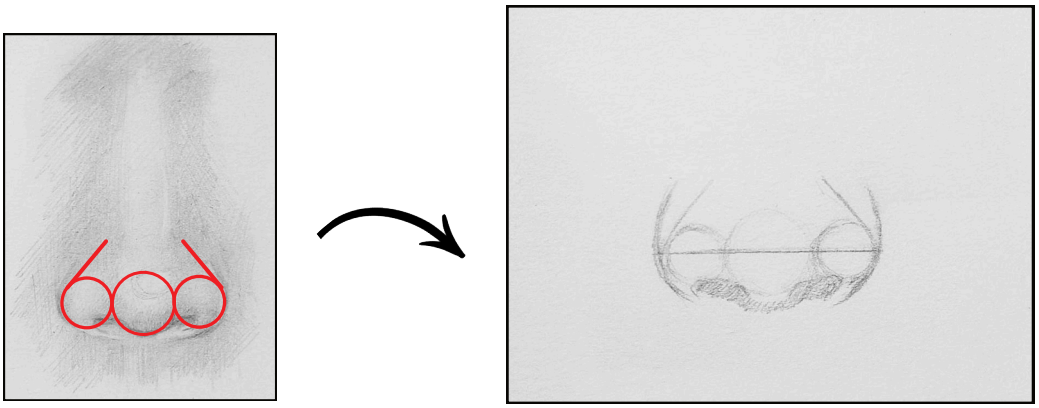
Add three circles: one in the center, and two smaller ones next to it, as shown.

4



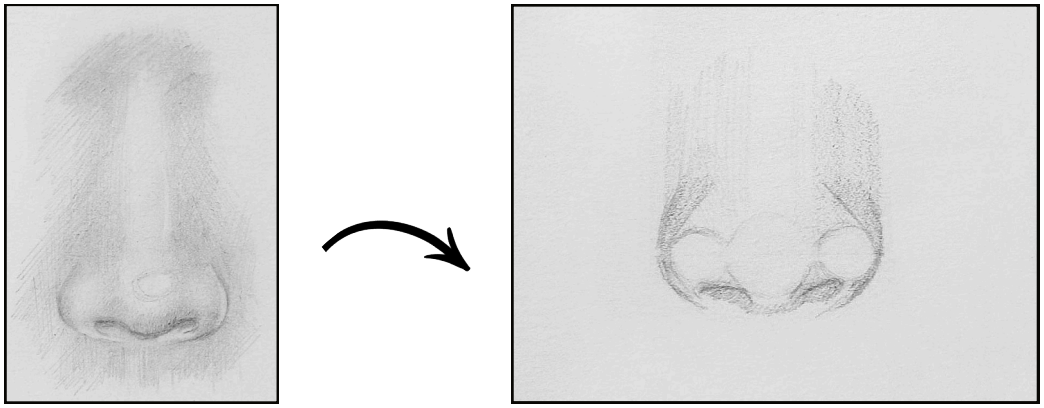
5

Now, form a six and a reversed six by adding two curved lines to the two small circles.



Add some shading.

6



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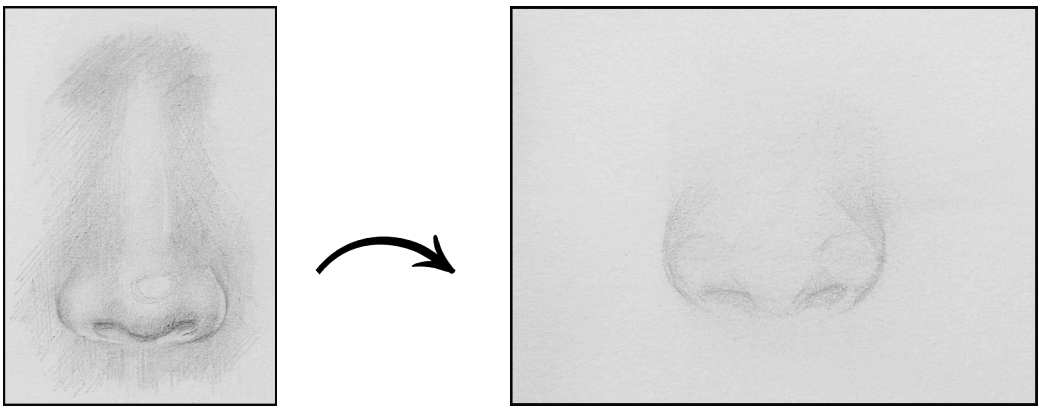
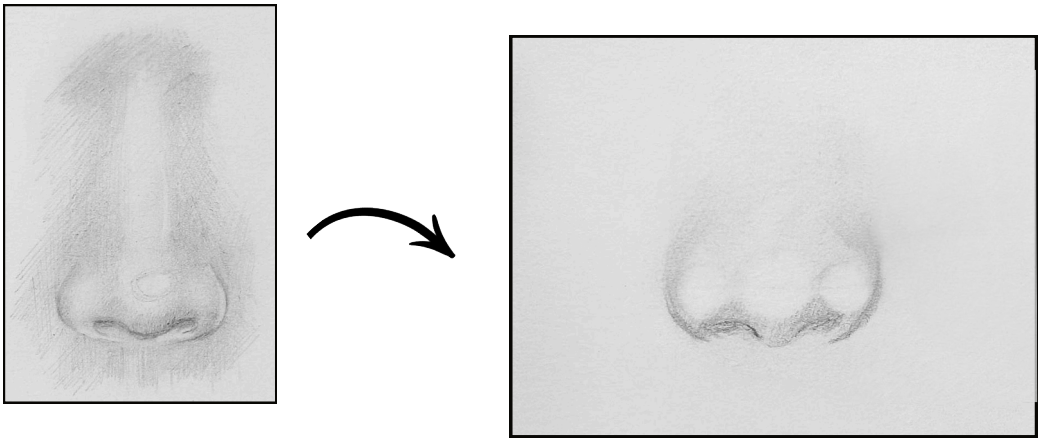
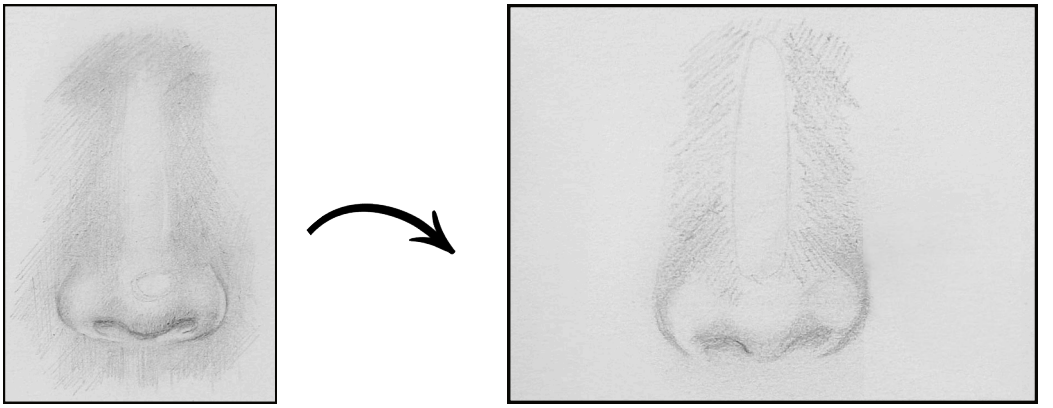
**7** Start by drawing a 4 cm line but don't apply too much pressure with your pencil as it will be erased later on.



Add some highlights by gently erasing where the three circles were before blending and then lightly shade again **8**



**9** Now, draw the nostrils.



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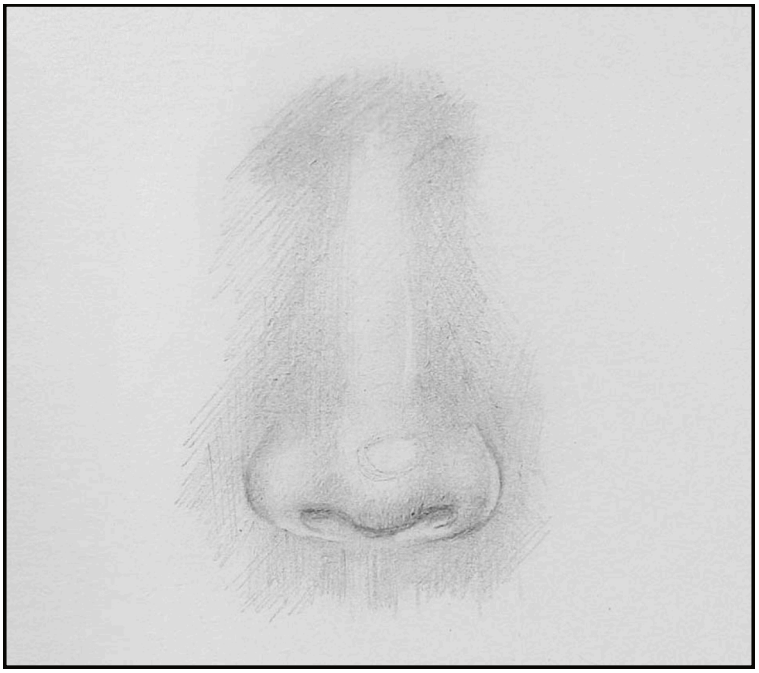
10

**And finally!**



Continue the same process until you achieve a drawing similar to the one above. When drawing, you'll always need to repeat 'this process' (shading, blending, highlighting) multiple times until you achieve the desirable outcome.

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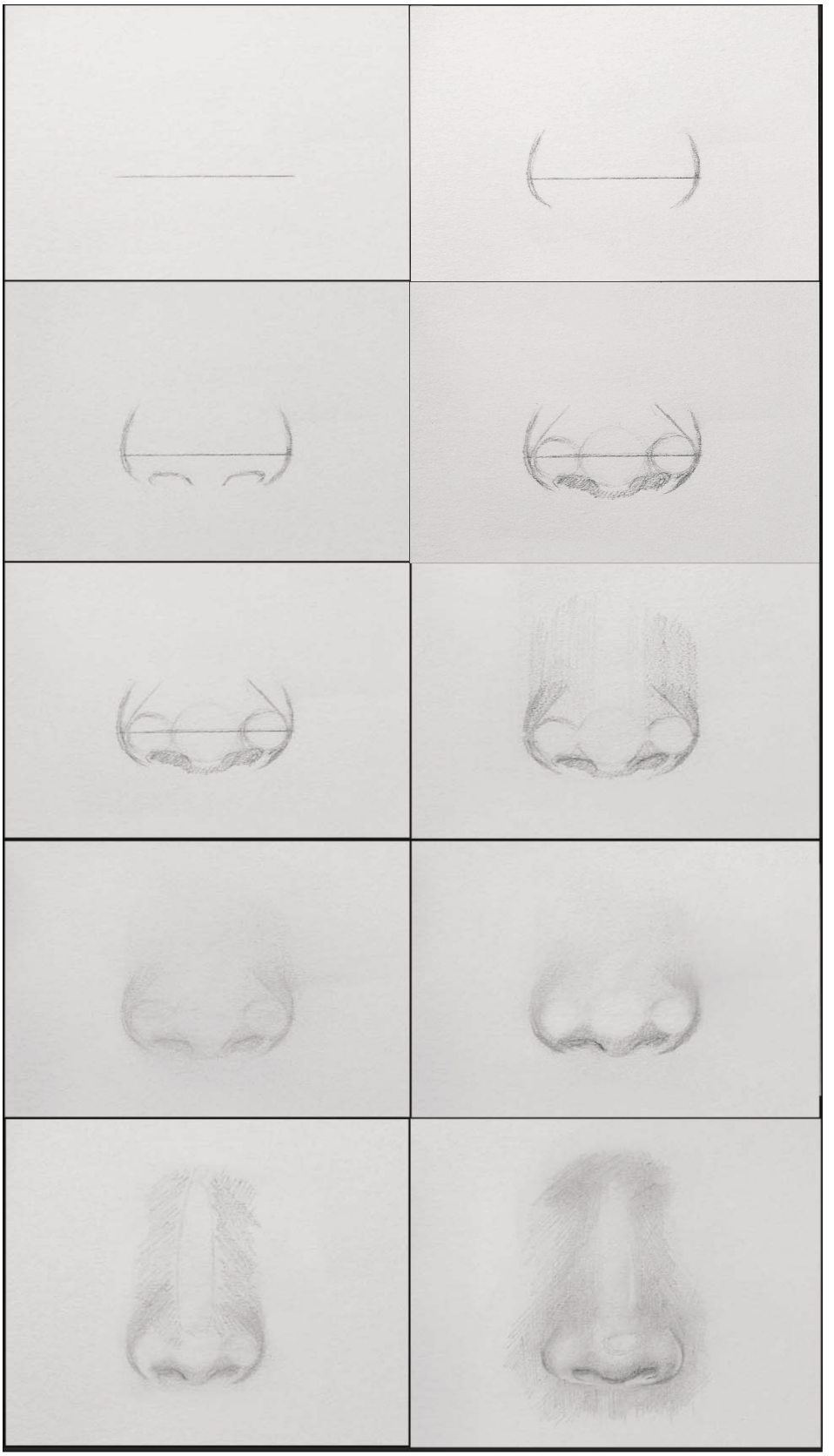

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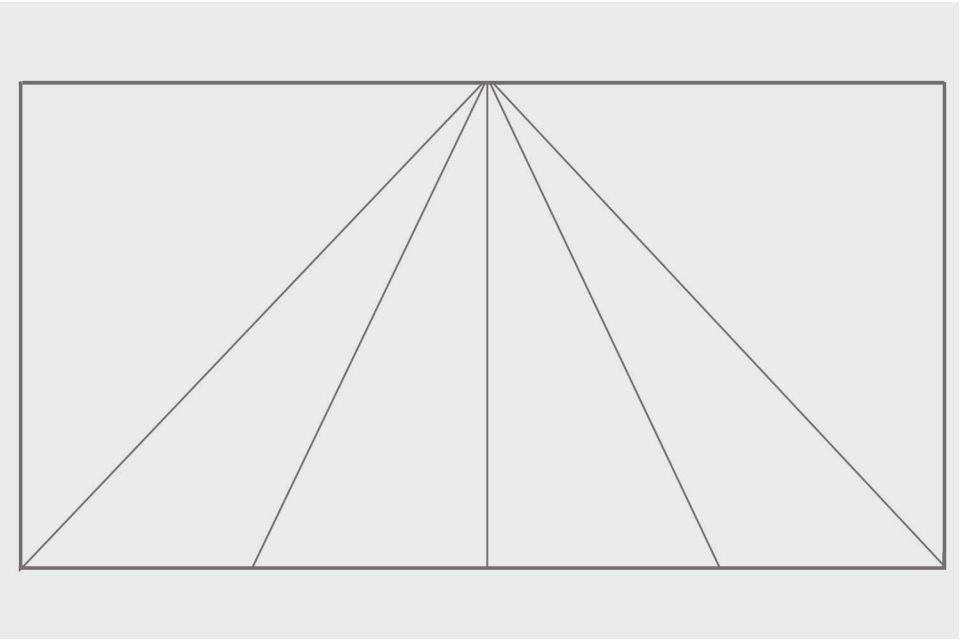
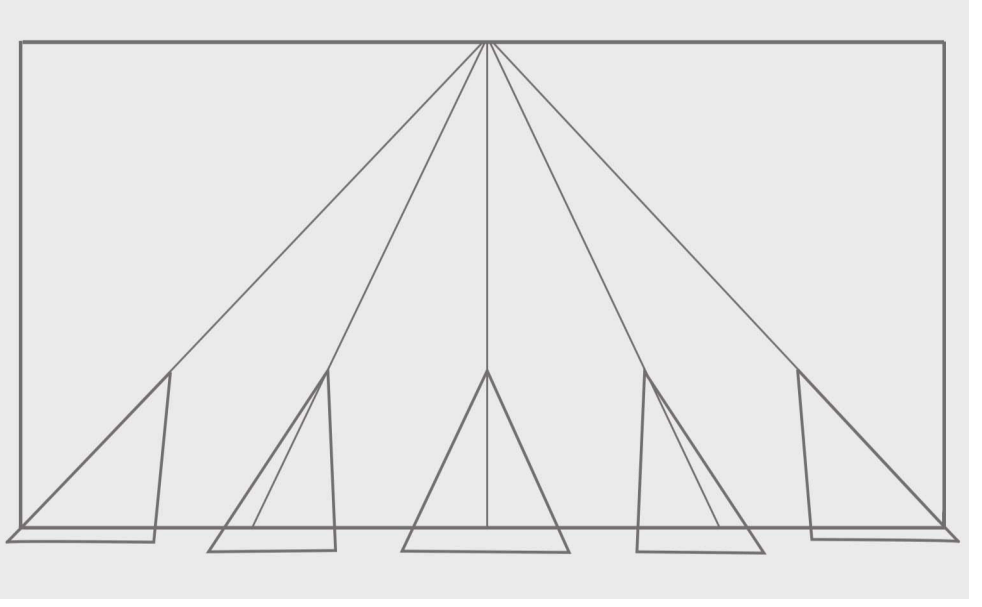
# Additional tips to draw the nose in various angles

Day 5



**You can download these practice sheets at :**
**https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**



With the first practice sheet, you can practice drawing the nose from various angles by adding medium-sized triangles as shown above. (Alternatively, you can choose to download the sheet pre-drawn with triangles.)

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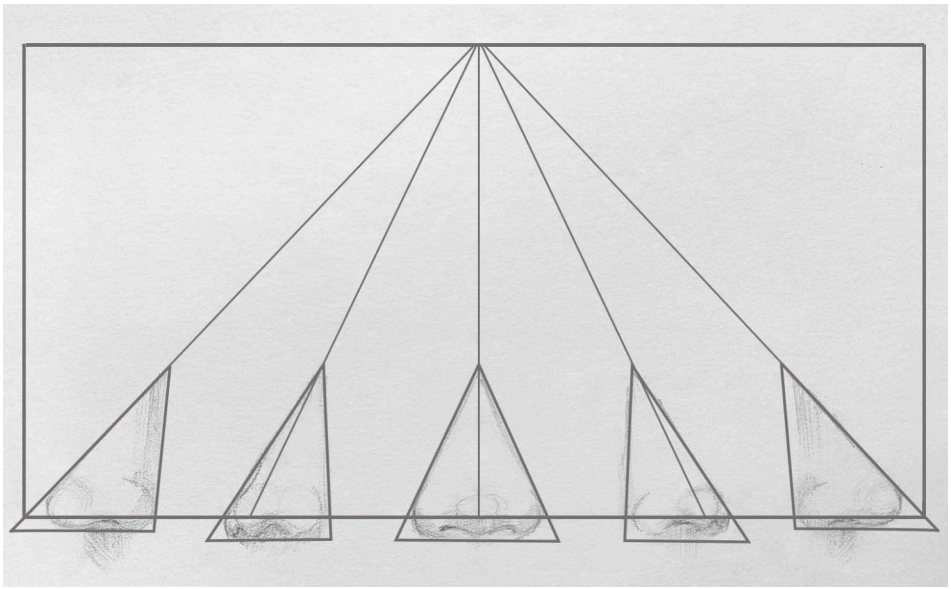
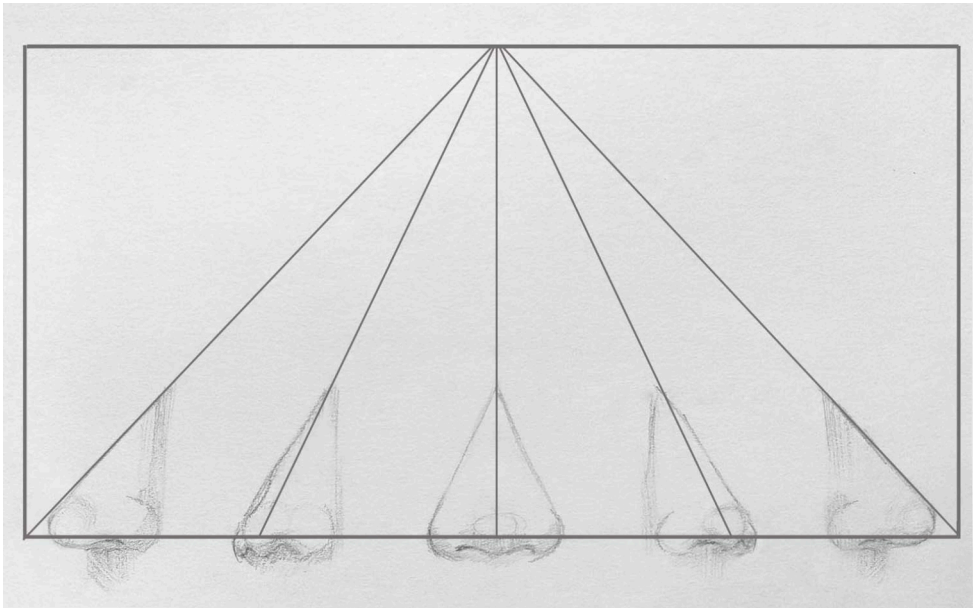
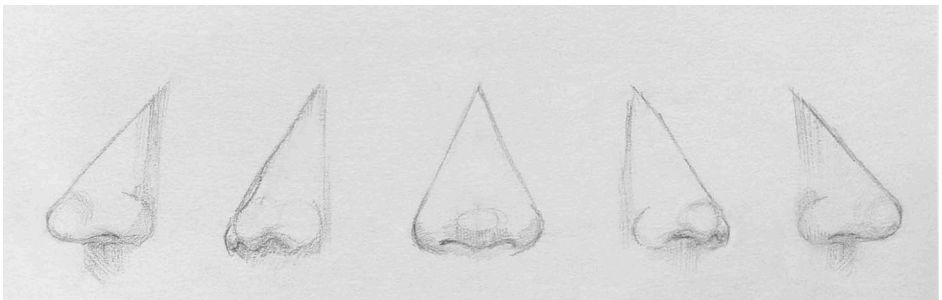


Inside those triangles, draw the nose shapes, using triangles to help you achieve accurate measurements. After practicing, try to replicate this in your sketchbook.





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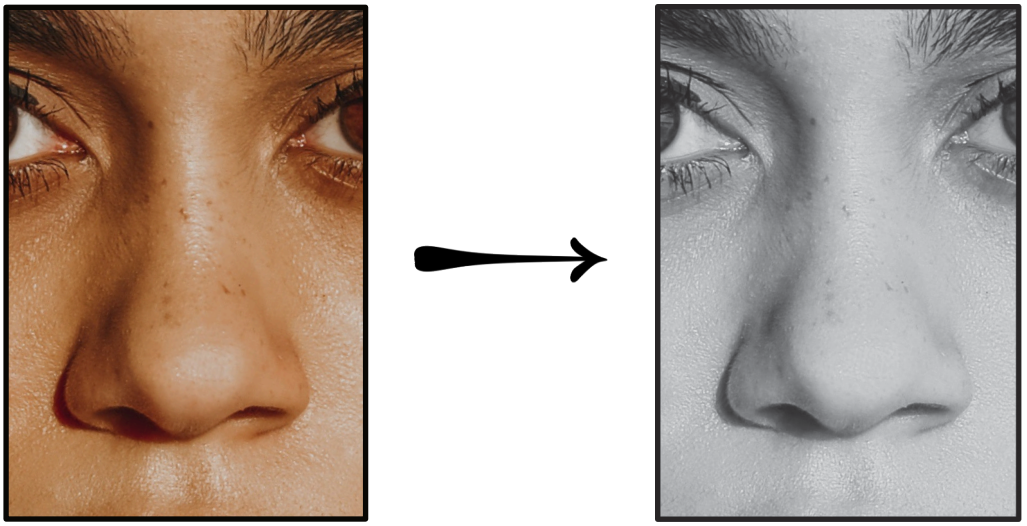
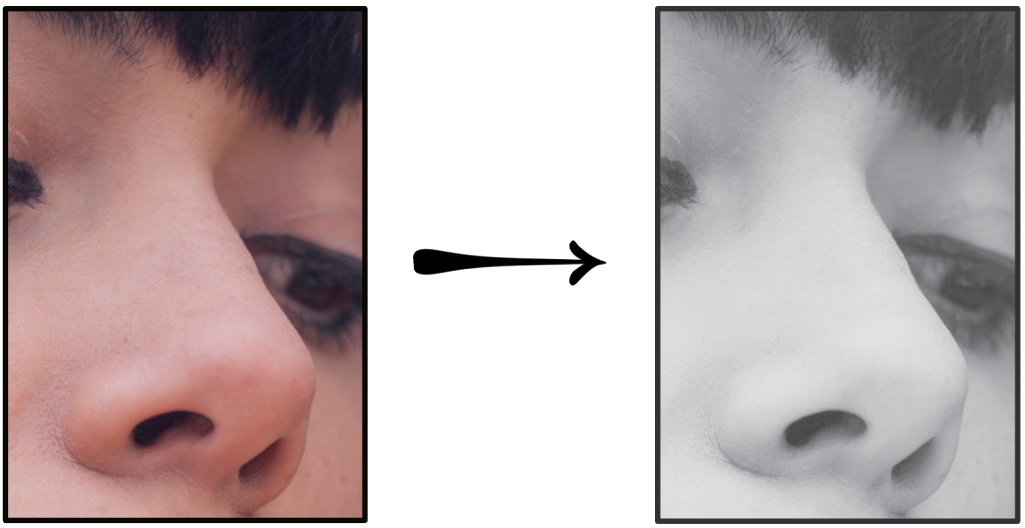


*Source: ©Kamiz ferreira via pexels*



*Source: ©Engin Akyurt via pexels*

*Source: ©Nose image via unsplash*

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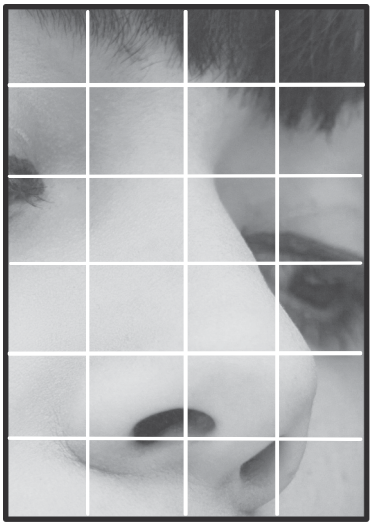

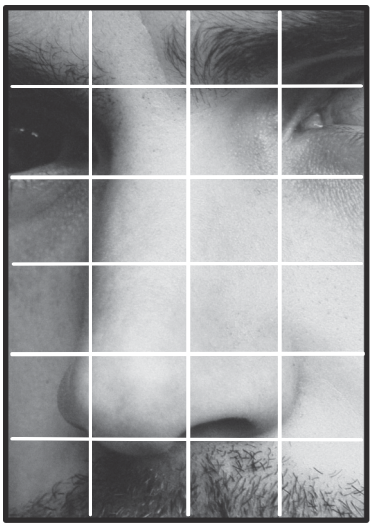



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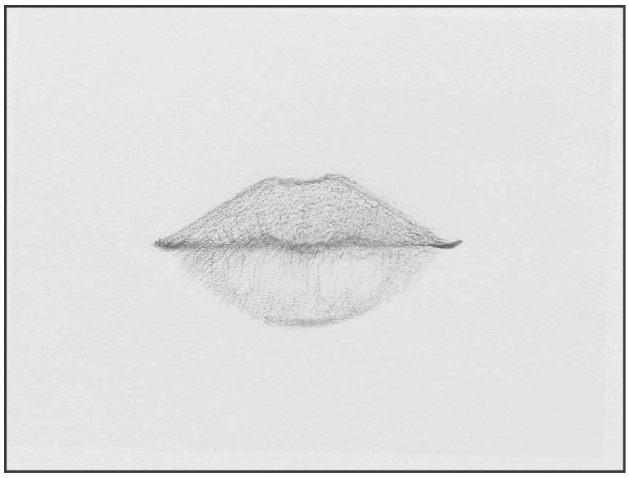
# How to Draw a Mouth Step-By-Step



A mouth is something very simple to draw, and I will show you how to draw one in 6 simple steps. Afterward, I will provide you with some reference images once again, so you can practice even more.

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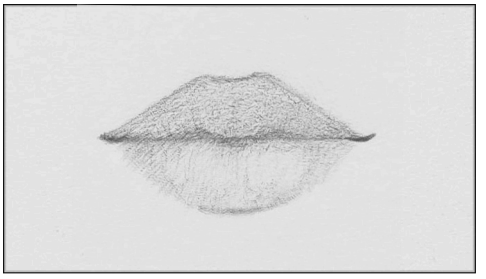
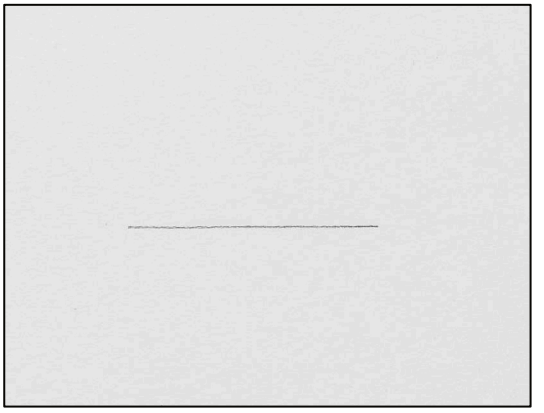
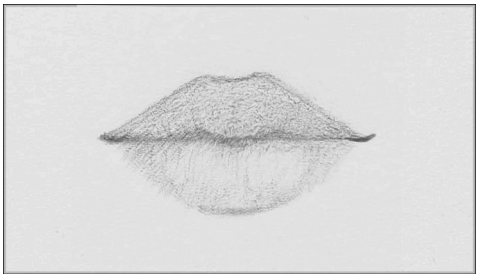
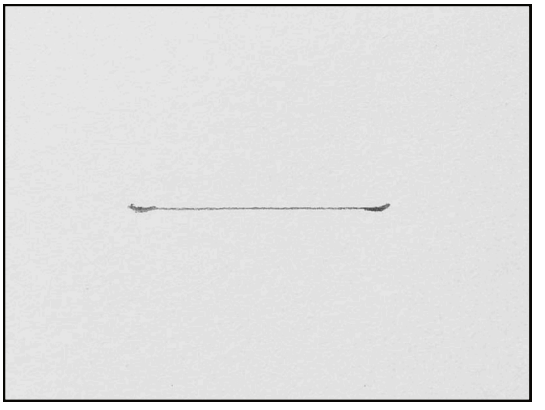
**1** Start by drawing a 4 cm line.



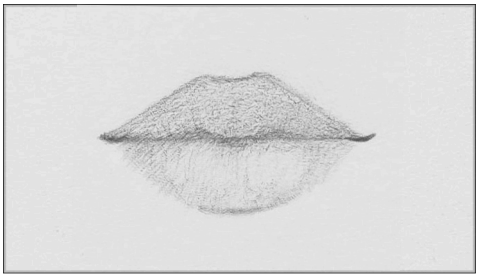


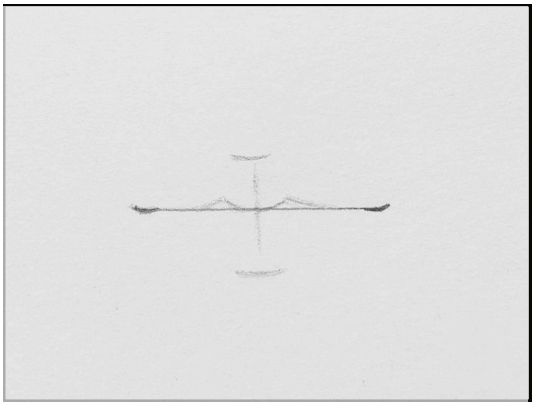
Then, as shown, add two small curves to each end of the line. **2**





**3** Now, draw some of the outline of the mouth.





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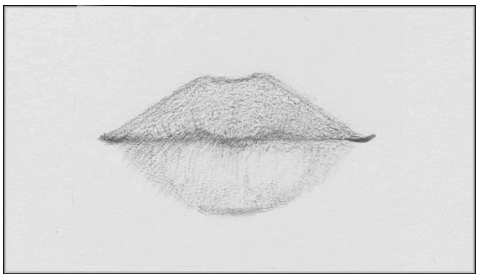
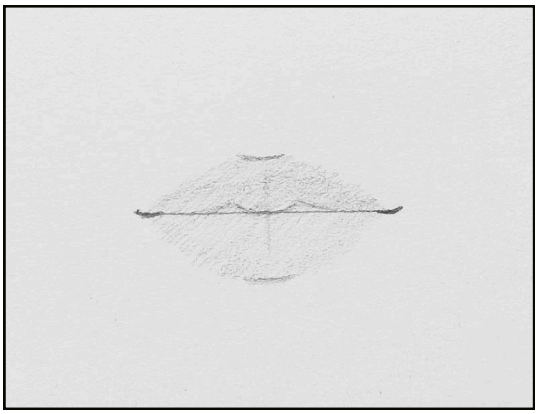
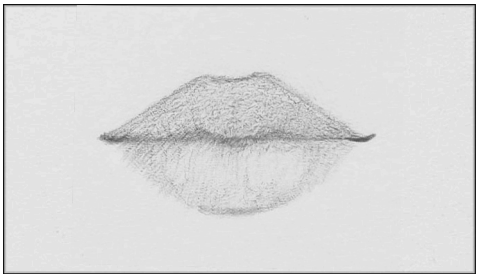
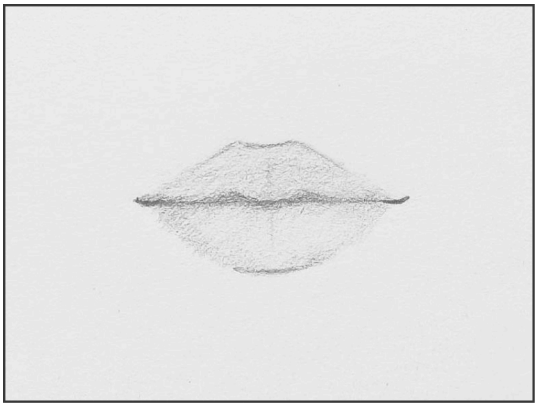
Fill the lips by lightly shading them... **4**



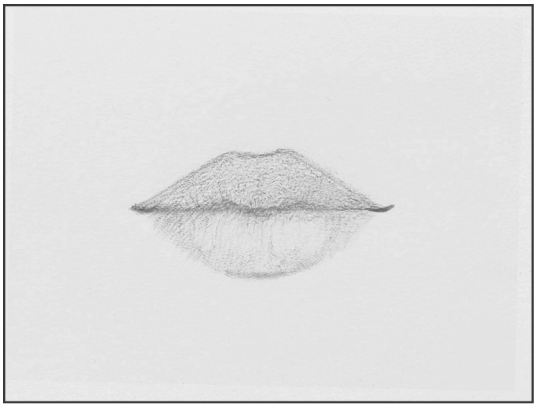


**5** Blend, and then add some more shading, especially near the first horizontal line we've drawn.





At the end, repeat the same process by shading the upper lip more. **6**



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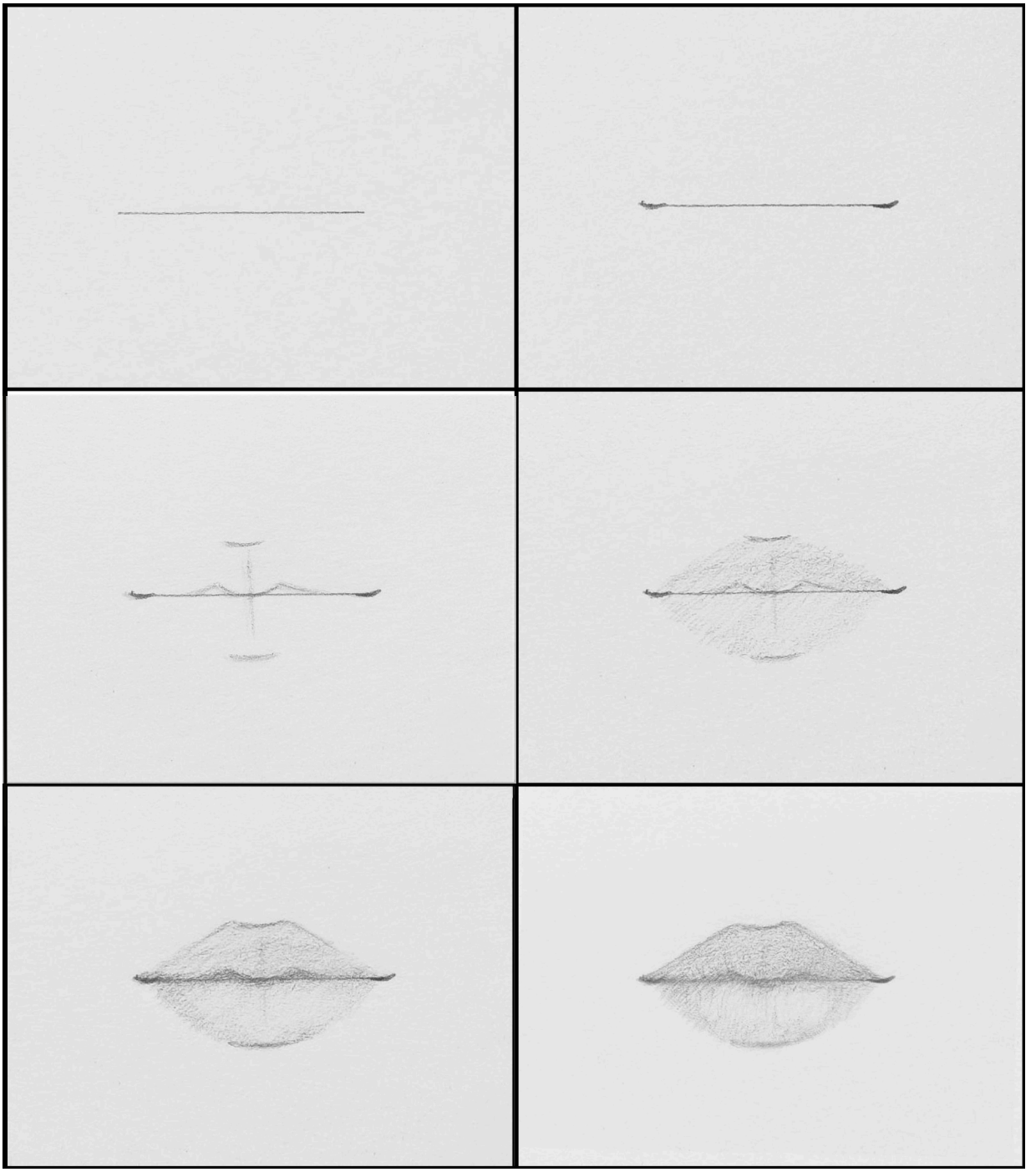

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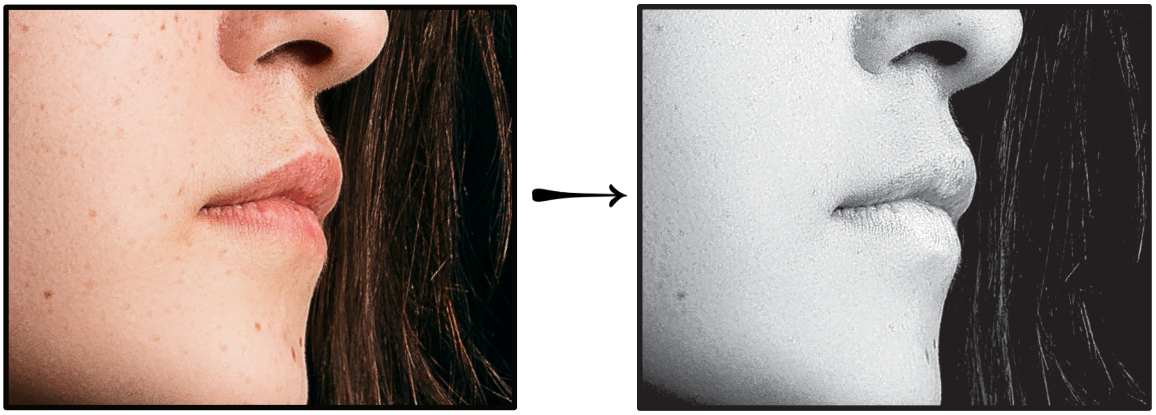
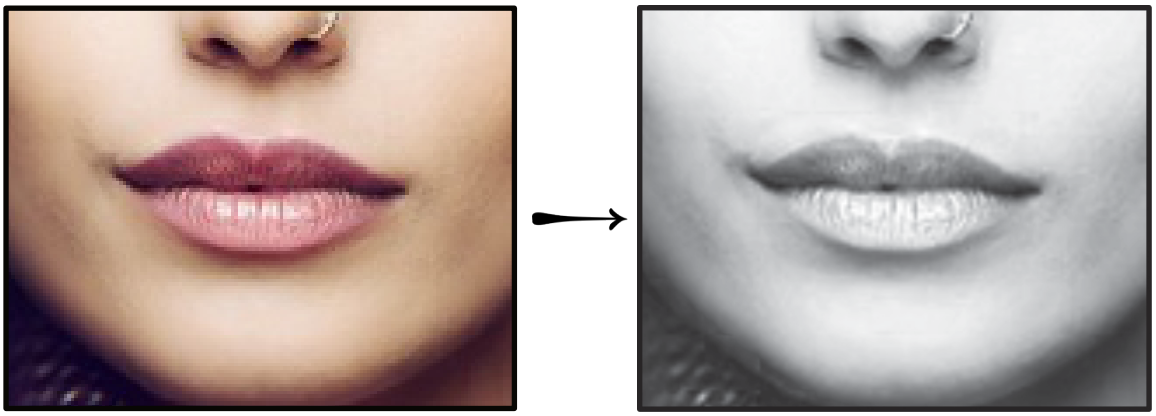
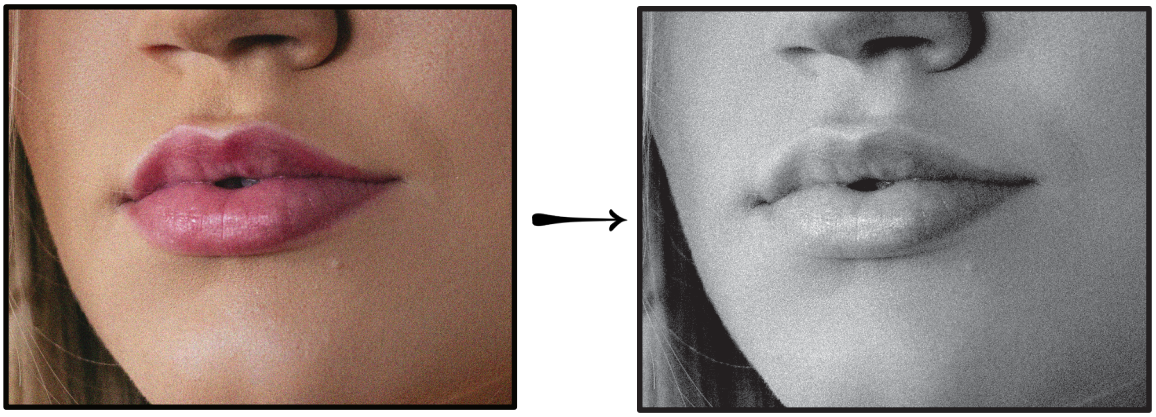
## Reference images for you to practice:



*Source: ©Kirill balobanov via unsplash*



*Source: ©Image via Pixabay*



*Source: ©Image via Pexels*

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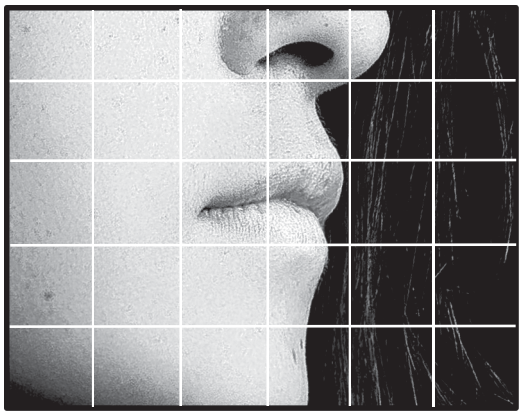

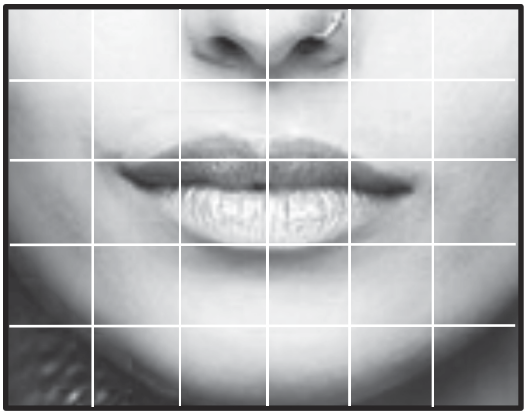

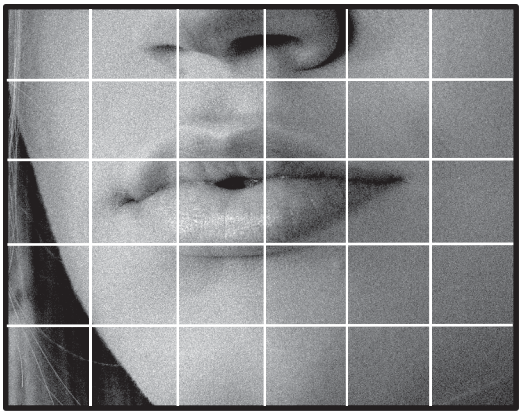



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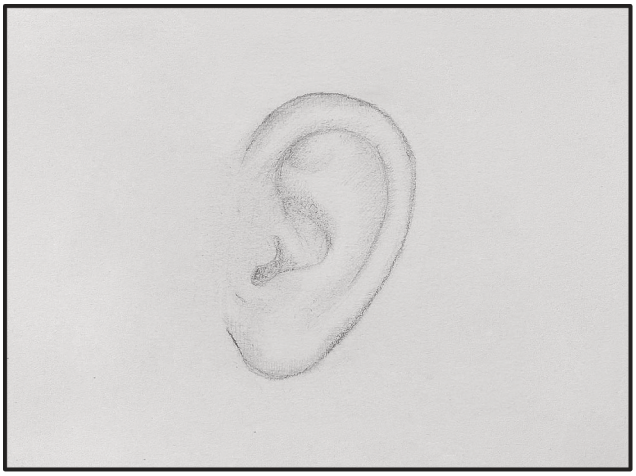
# How to draw an ear step-by-step



As the other facial features, I will first show you how to draw an ear step-by-step, then for you to practice further I will provide you with some reference images of ears.

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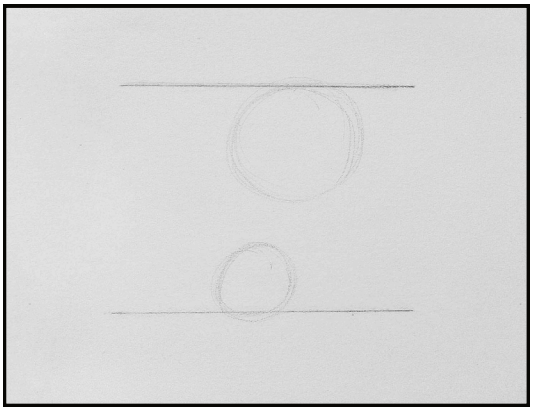
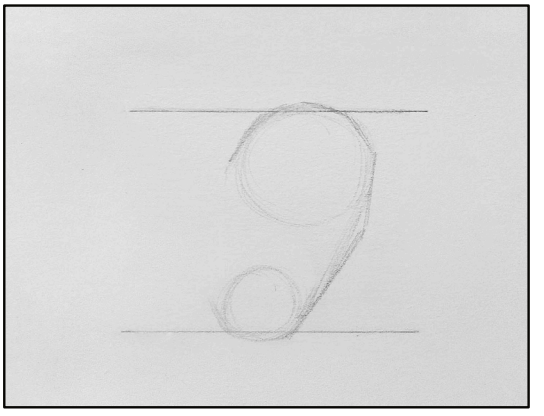
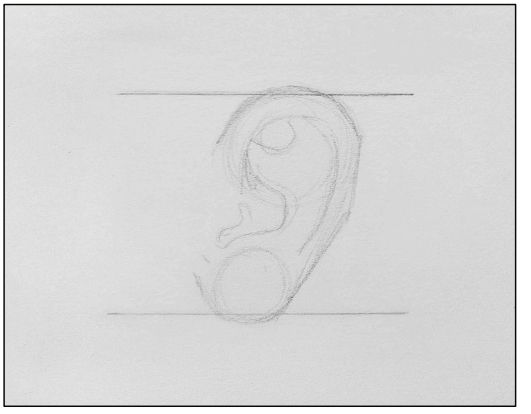
**1** Start by drawing two parallel horizontal lines, spaced 7 cm apart from each other. Then, add two circles. The one on top should be larger than the one below.



When done, connect the two circles to form the ear, as you can clearly see. **2**



**3** Now, add the inner ear detail.



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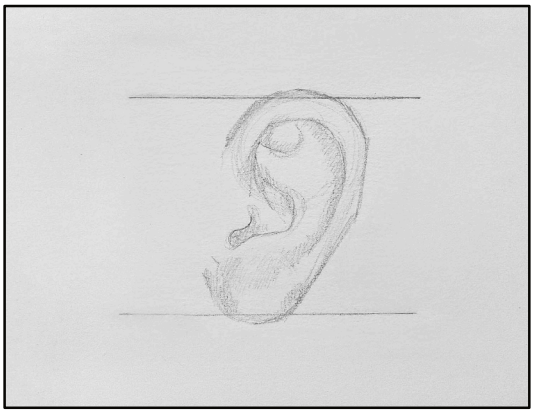
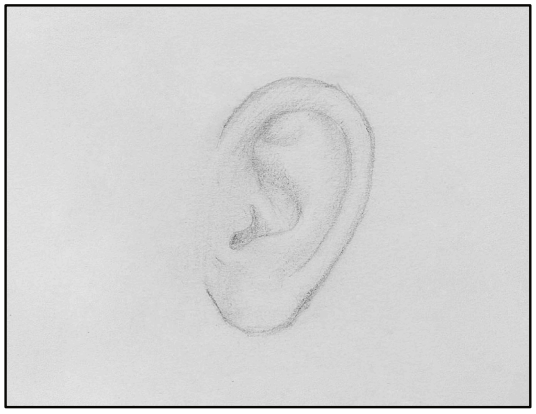
Retrace the lines you've already drawn by adding some light shading.

4



5

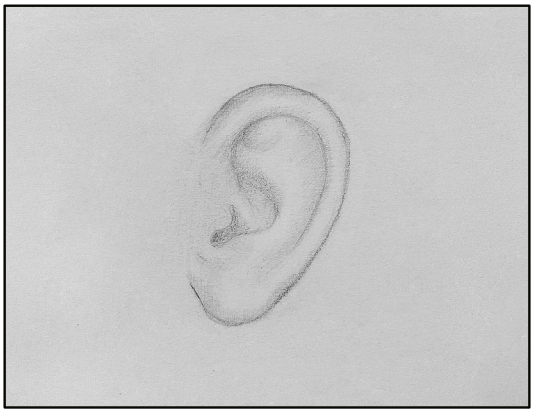
Now, erase the two parallel lines and blend everything by gently rubbing a tissue on your drawing.



Finally, finalize your drawing by lightly retracing the outline.

6

Afterward, add highlights by erasing with a kneaded eraser on the lighter parts, as you can see in the left drawing.



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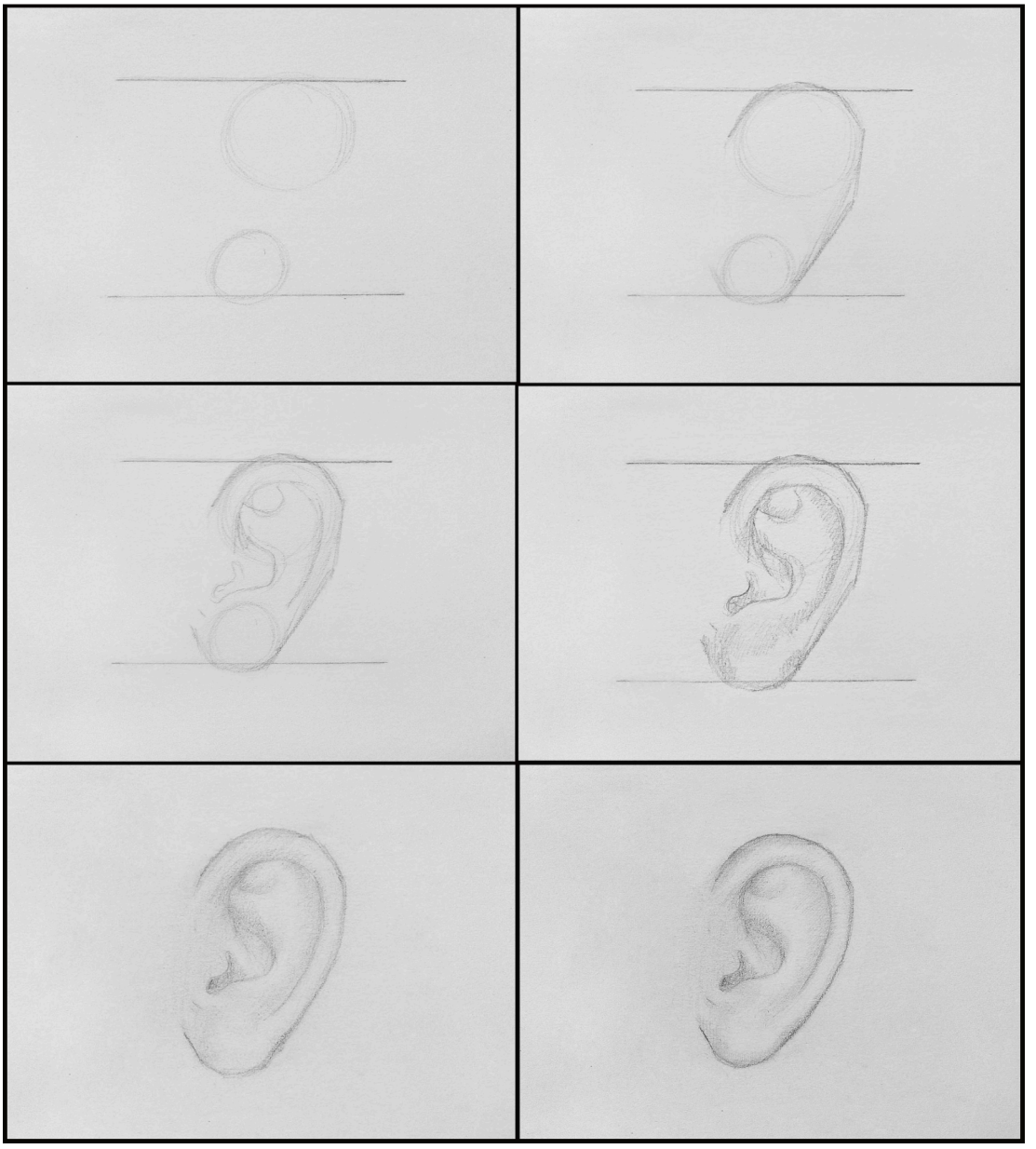

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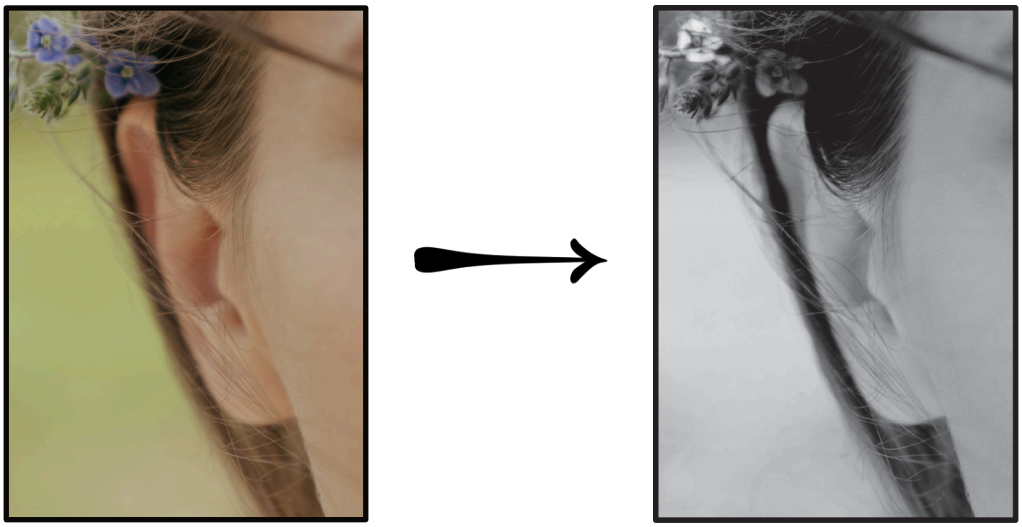

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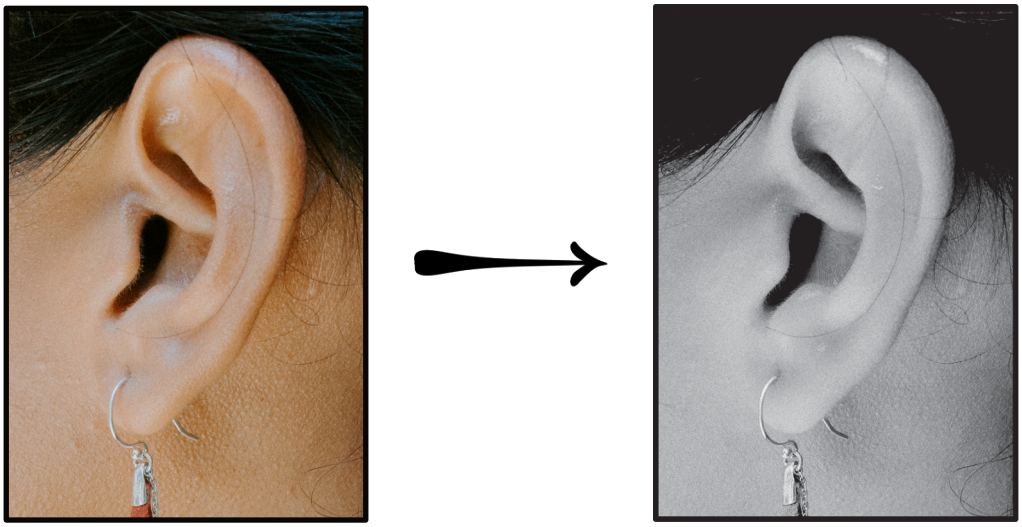

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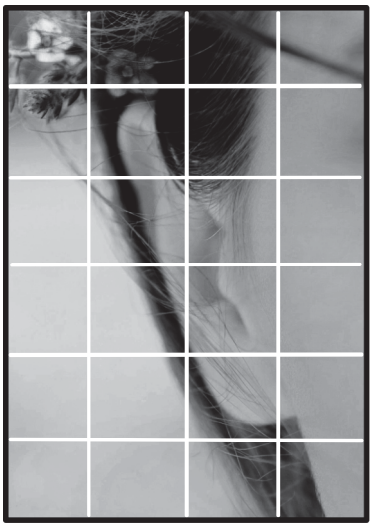

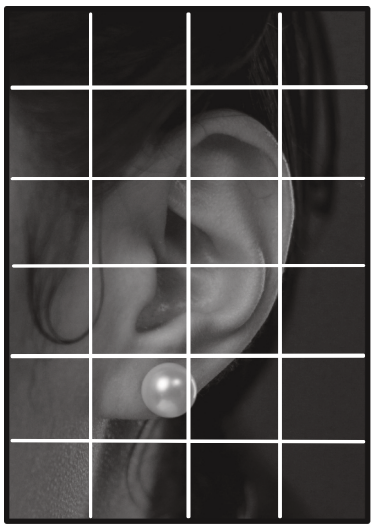

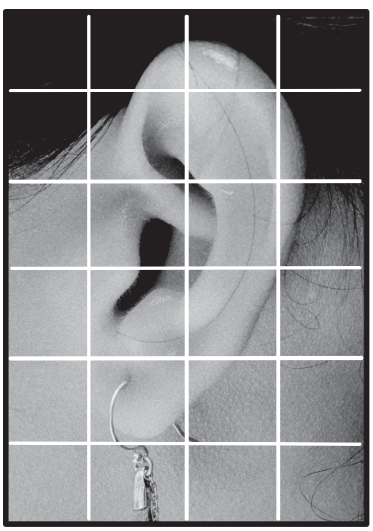



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# Additional

I won't be showing you how to draw an eye step by step today, as I already demonstrated how to draw a single eye and two eyes on day 3.

However, if you're interested in reference images of eyes in different directions, you can find them on page 236 to 241 or download them from my website: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links** as all other reference image shared in today's lesson.

...

Now, for this second part of today's lesson, I'm going to explain to you how proportions work when drawing a face and how a face is constructed.

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# The Basic Proportions to Know When Drawing a Face

Day 5

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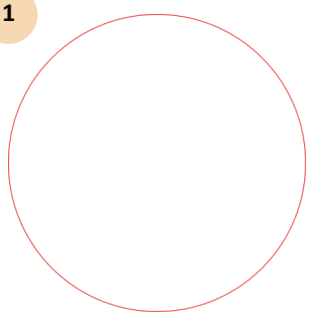
If you didn't know, to draw a face, we almost always start in the same way. The only difference is if the shape of the head or facial features changes. For instance, sometimes a head can be wider than normal, rounder, the eyes could be Asian, the mouth very thin, the chin more pronounced, etc. These are some of the differences that can make drawing a face distinct.

However, the construction of a typical head always remains the same, and here are the steps:

## Steps on how to draw a head:

1



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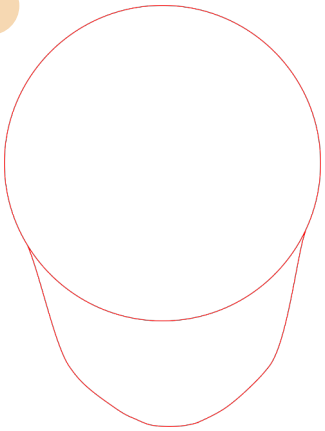
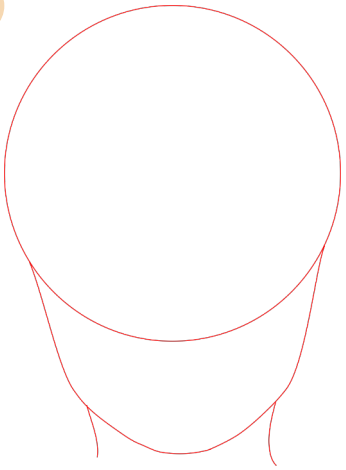


3



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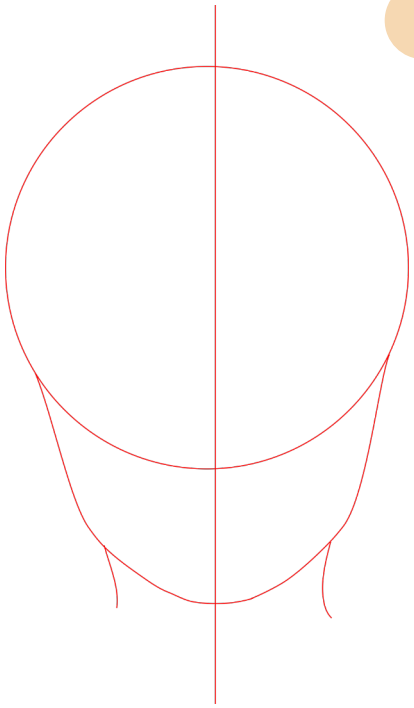
4



As you can see, this is step 4 for drawing a face. I also intentionally included step 4 lines on top of a reference photo so you can visually see how it applies.

Before proceeding with the steps to draw faces, I'll take a moment to explain certain rules about facial features and their placement on the next two pages. Then, we will continue with our step-by-step process on how to draw a head.

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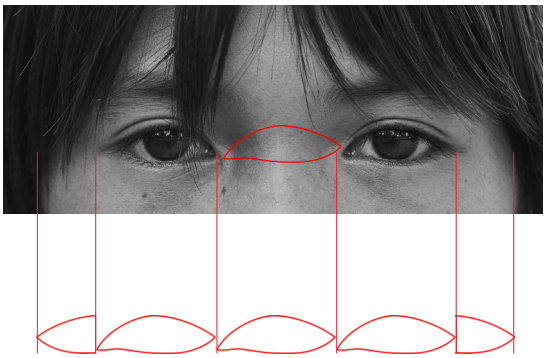
## When drawing the eyes:

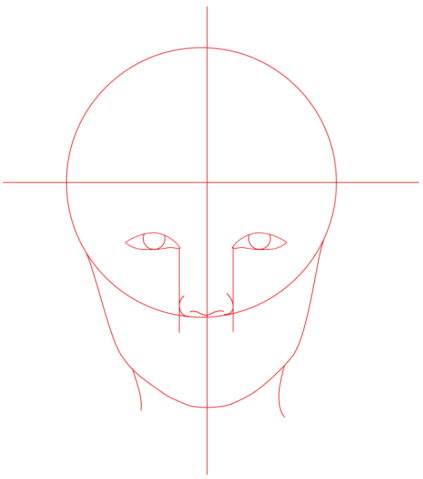
When it comes to drawing the eyes, there's something you should know. The distance between the eyes is equal to one eye.

To precisely draw both eyes in the right place, keep this in mind. Draw half an eye, one eye (the space between the eyes that's equal to one eye), the left eye, and again, half an eye.



## When drawing the nose:

To draw the nose in the right place, you just need to draw two lines coming from the inner eyes, as you can see in the picture on the left.



This is also helpful to determine the width of the nose. Now, to figure out its length, here's a little trick. Remember step number 4, the nose is drawn at the bottom inside the circle.

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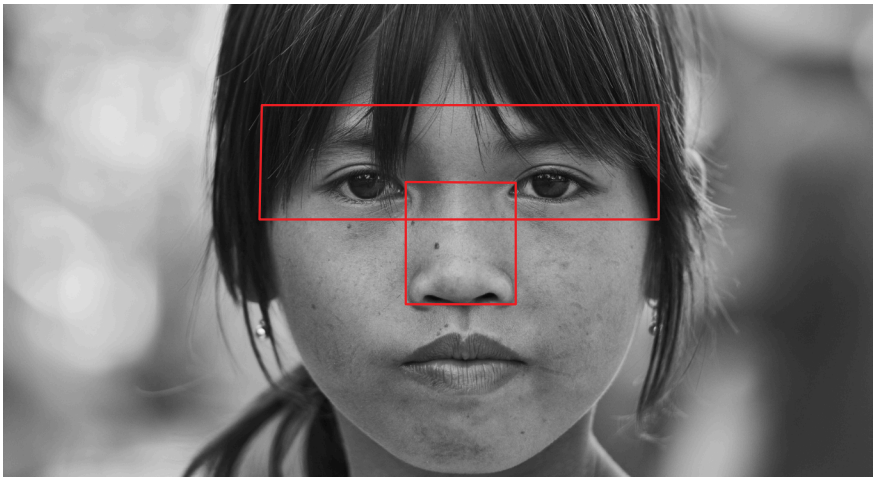
## Remember this?

On day four, I showed you how a T-shape can be found on all faces, although its appearance may vary depending on the morphology. This T-shape can be, if you want, the first thing you start with when drawing a face.



## When drawing the mouth:

As we did to draw the nose, to draw the mouth one should draw lines from the corner of the iris.

*Note:* this can vary depending on the face's morphology, but this is often the case. Also, be aware that if a person is smiling, the lines would descend from the center of the pupil.

## When drawing the ears:

The ears are also located in a specific place as the other facial features. Once again, to accurately find their placement, one should draw two parallel lines. One comes just below the nose, and the other near the eyebrows. The second one can slightly vary its position depending on the person's age and morphology. However, the line will always be close to the eyebrow, either above it, in the middle, or just below it.

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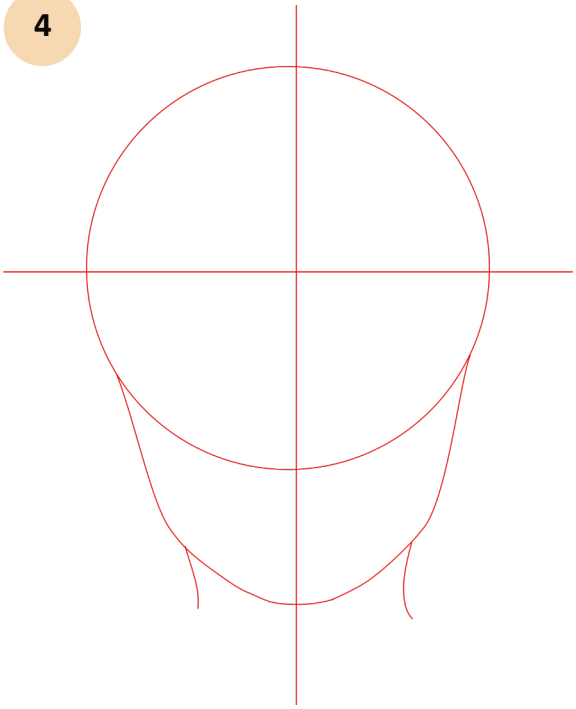
# Let's go back to our step-by-step on how to draw a head:

4



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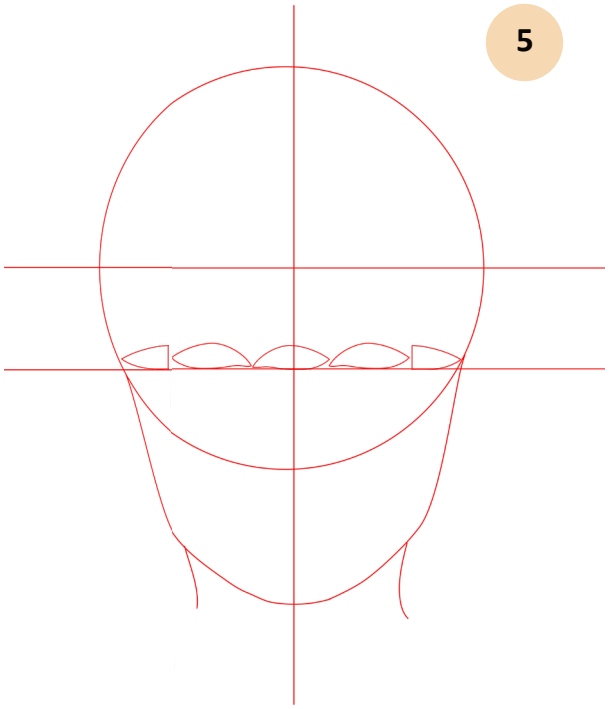

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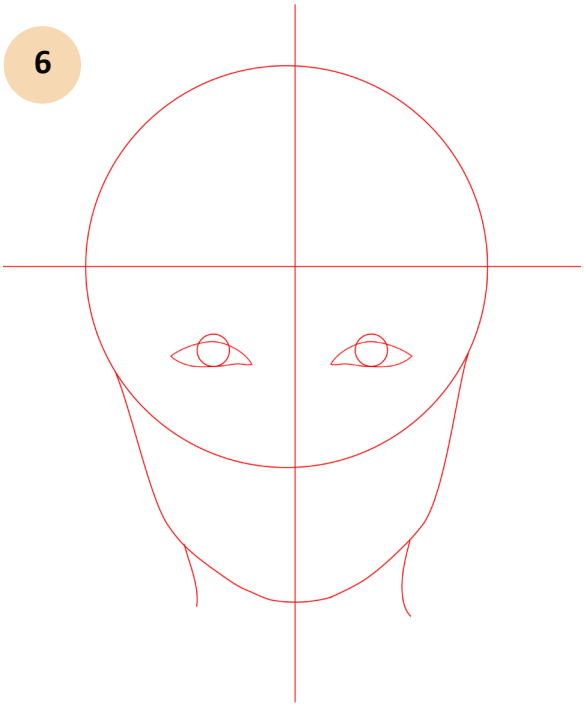

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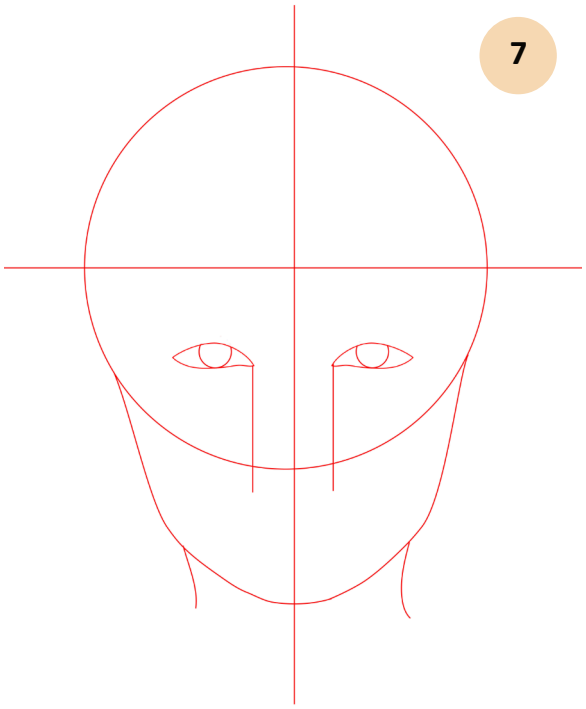

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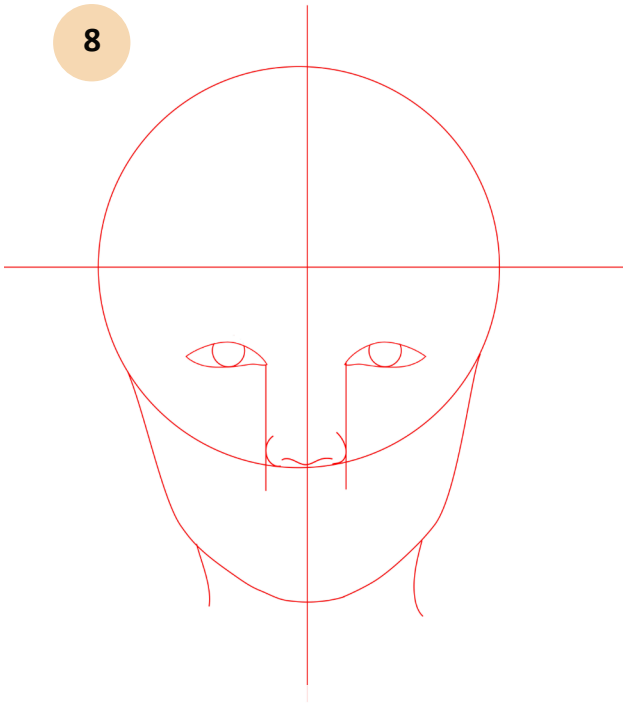

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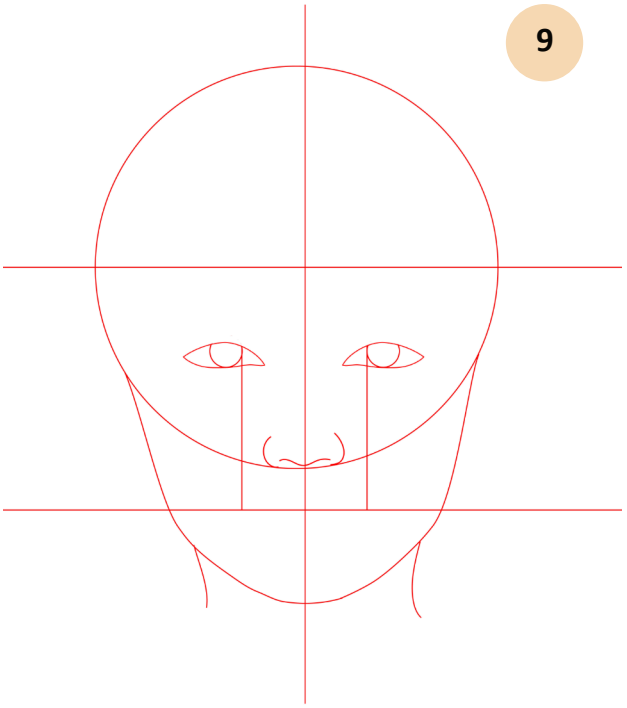

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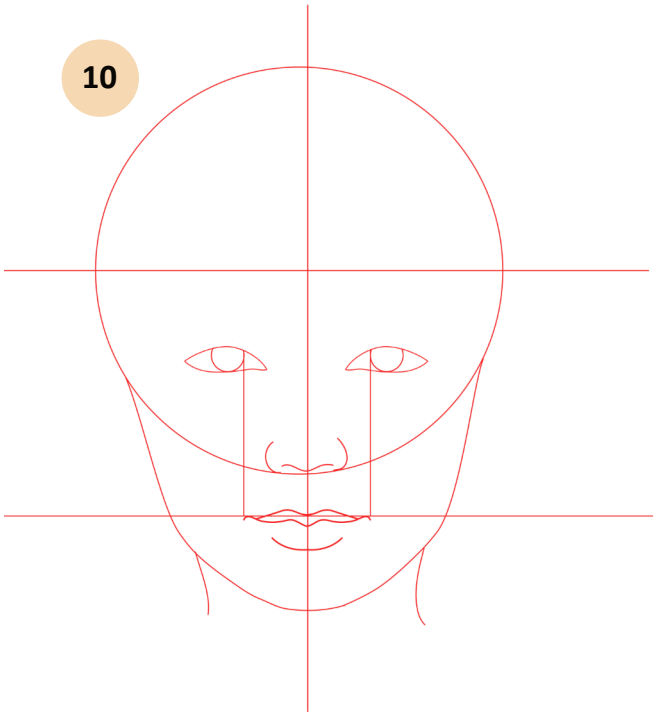

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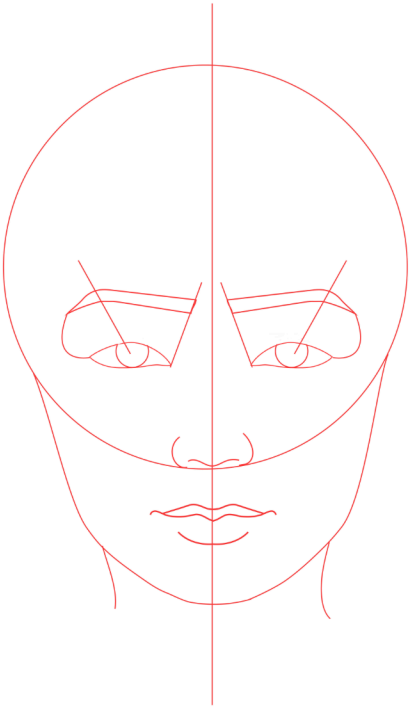

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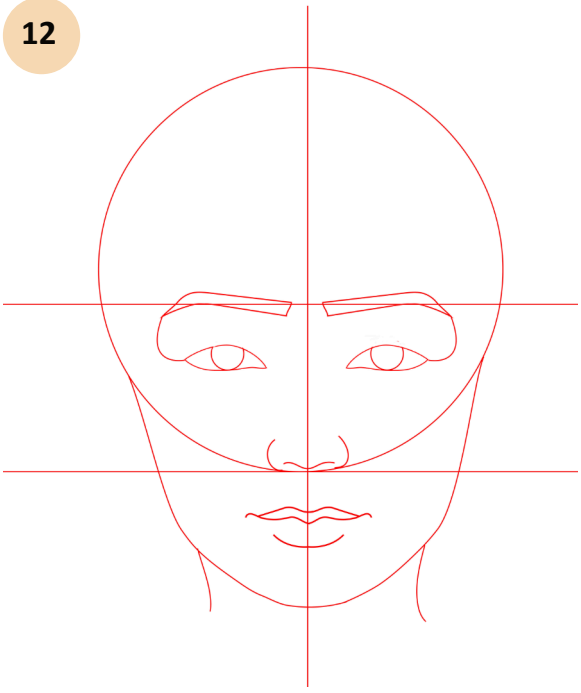
12



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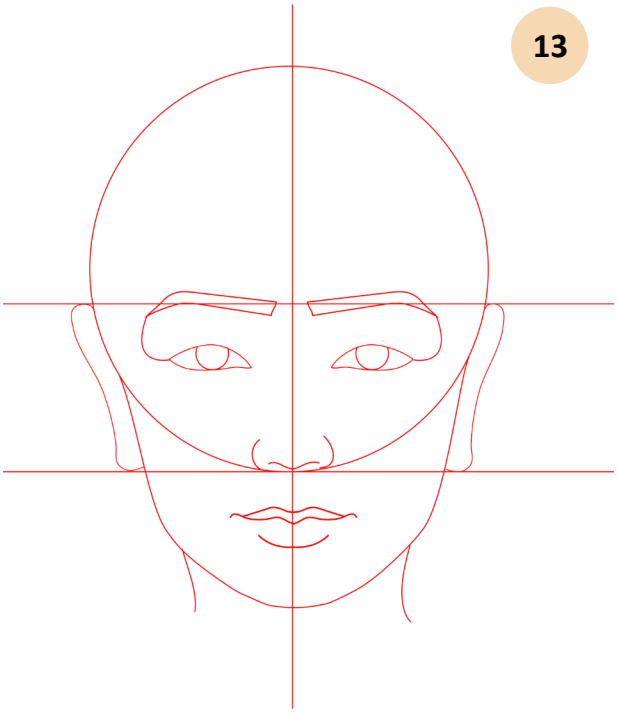
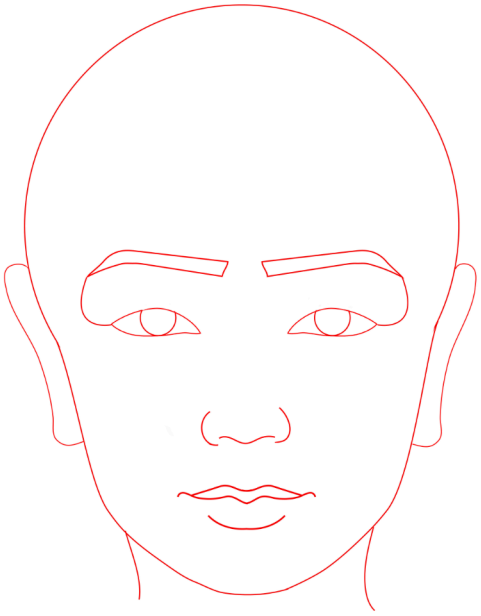


14



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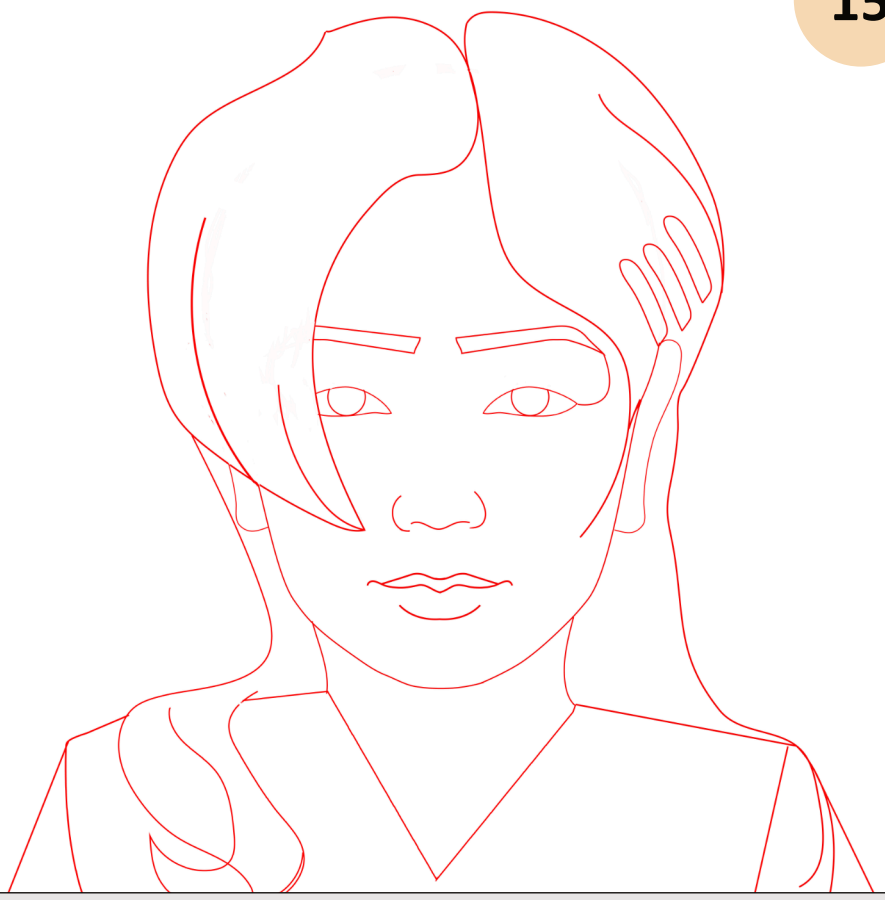
15



After having followed the 14 steps and having applied the right proportions for the face, you can draw any type of hair that you see fit to personalize your face's drawing appearance.

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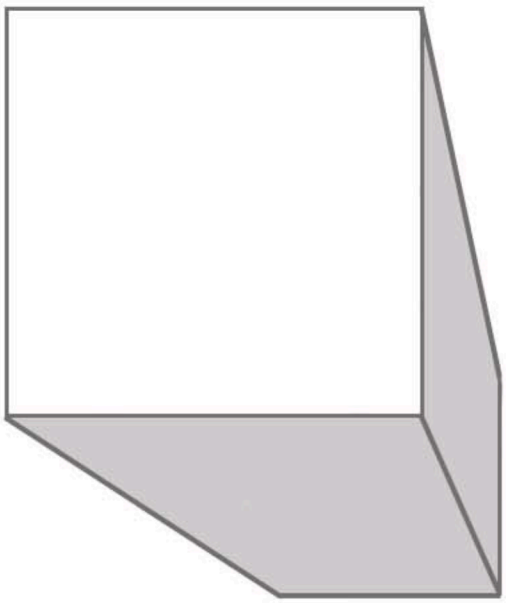
# The Basics on How to Start drawing in 3D



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# Day six

06

*"In television, images are projected at you. You are the screen. The images wrap around you. You are the vanishing point."* ***— Marshall McLuhan***

## Step 7: Learning the Basics of Perspective in the most Simplified Way

Today, I'm going to teach you the fundamentals of perspective in a very simplified way. Understanding perspective can be really useful when drawing landscapes, cities, or simply cool drawings. Thus, understanding the basics can be quite advantageous.

**The basic steps of perspective are simply consisting of four things:**

1

### Drawing A Horizontal line

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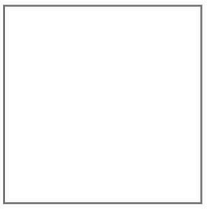
## One or more vanishing points

2



3

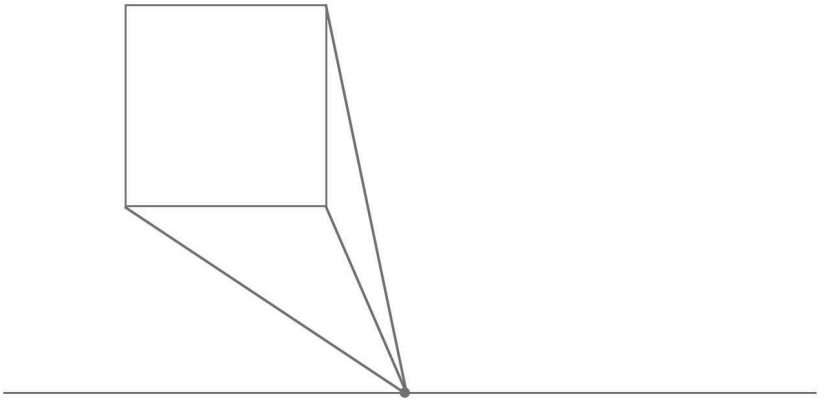
## Drawing an object. (For this example: a square)





## Lines that go to the vanishing point

4



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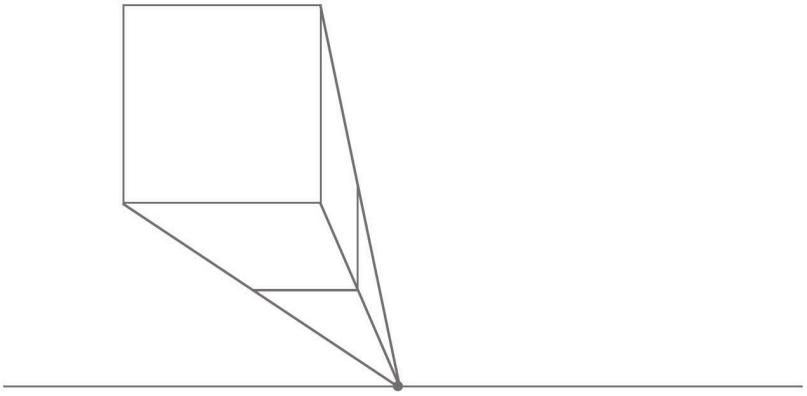
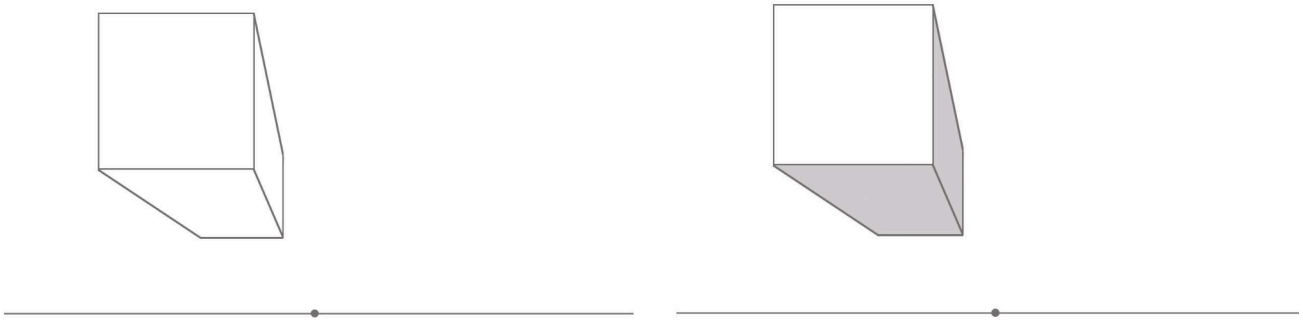
**All other lines that overlap the lines from step 4** **4**



**5** **Adding some shading and remove the excess lines**



To better understand how this is done, take a piece of paper, a ruler, and practice this simple exercise. I will show you how to become more familiar with perspective by drawing different geometrical shapes using the same principles as how we drew this cube.

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# Exercises for you to practice:

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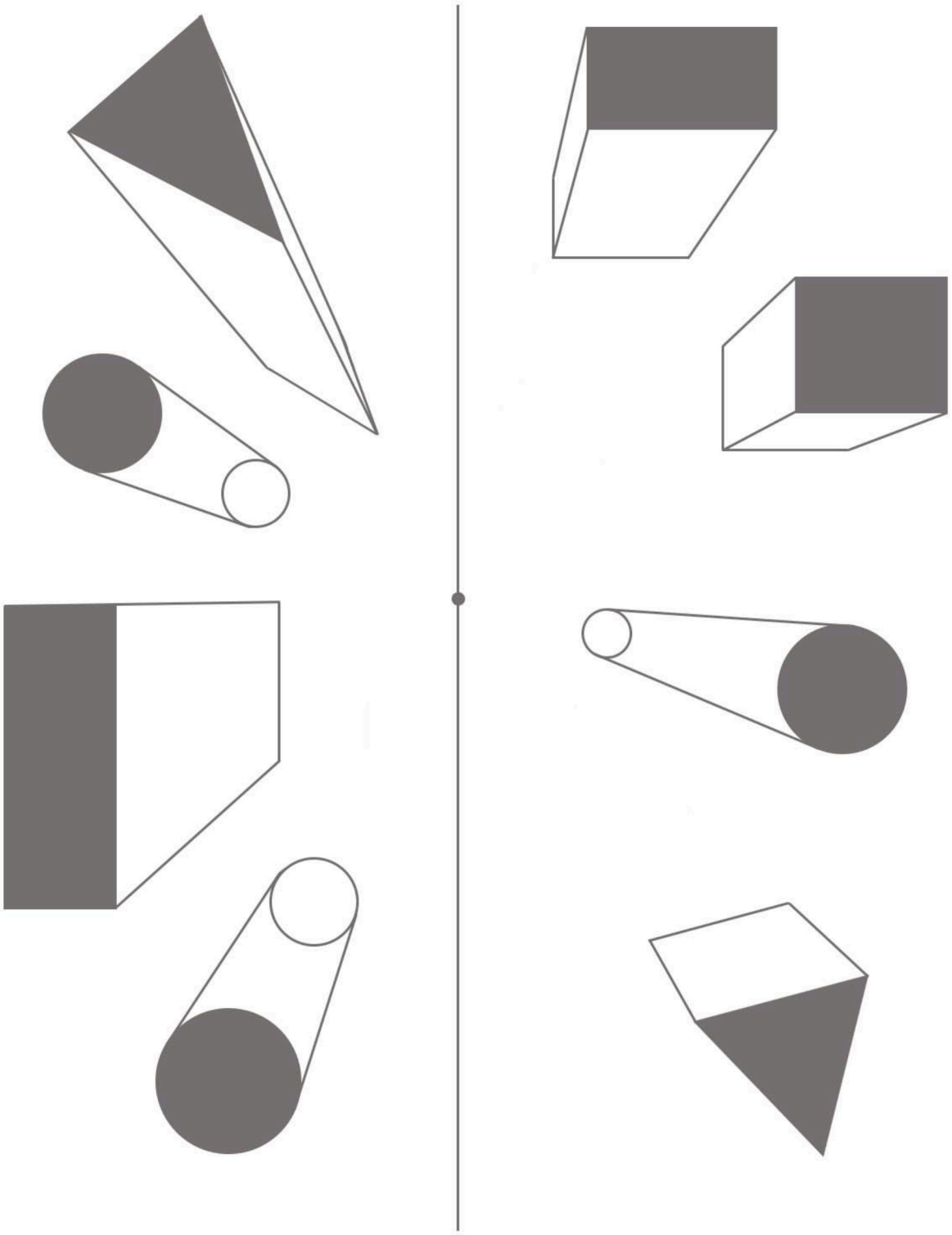

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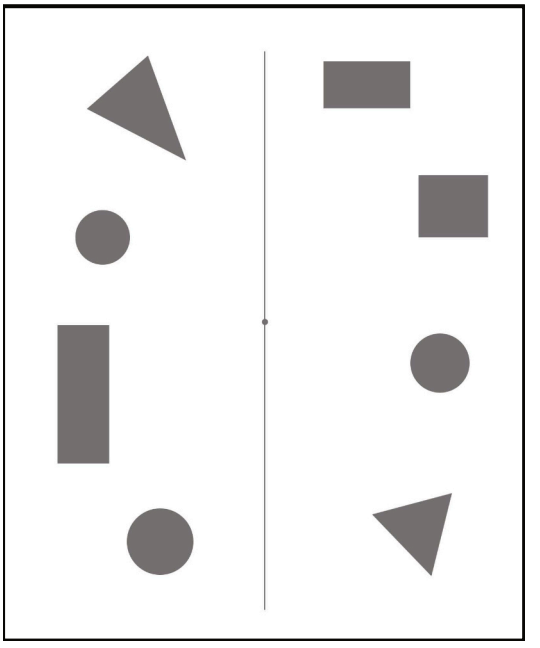
**Day 6**

Let's begin by drawing our horizontal line, which will serve as our horizon.

Place a dot on the line, roughly in the middle. This dot represents the vanishing point.

Now, choose a shape of your preference to work with.

Then, draw geometrical shapes of your choice. The size doesn't really matter, but you should always use a ruler, and you can place them anywhere on your paper. If you'd like, you can also try connecting the shapes to the vanishing point using a ruler.



I hope that explanation was clear enough for you to understand.

Here's how it should appear in the end:

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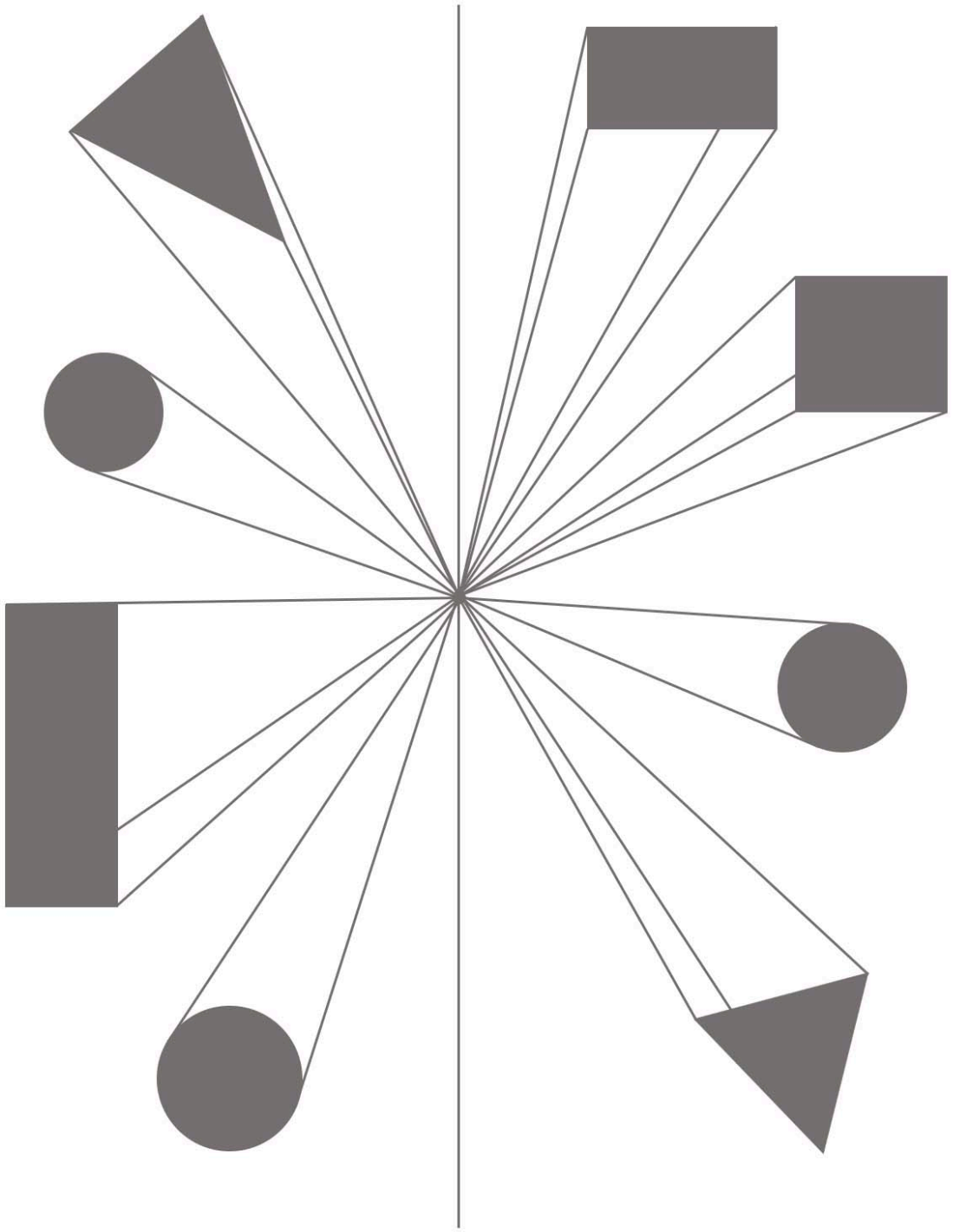

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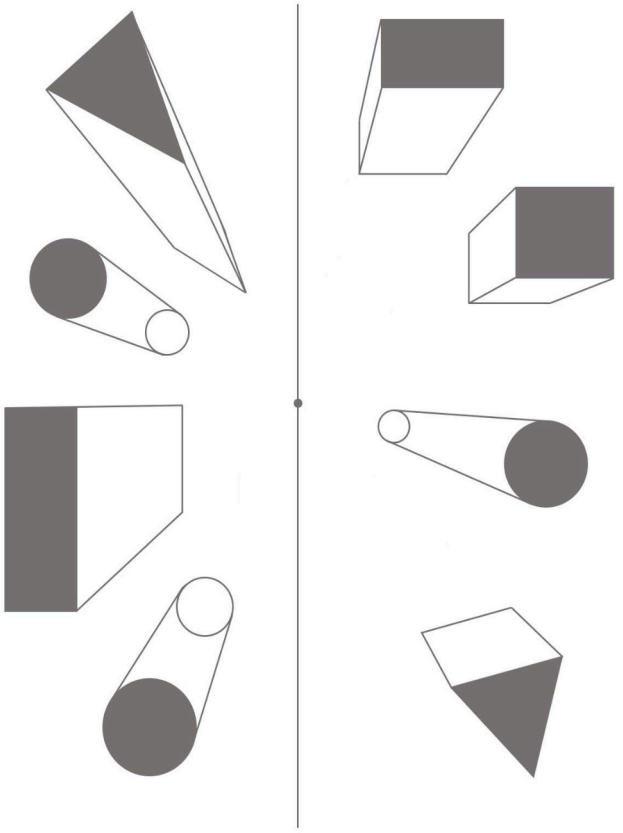
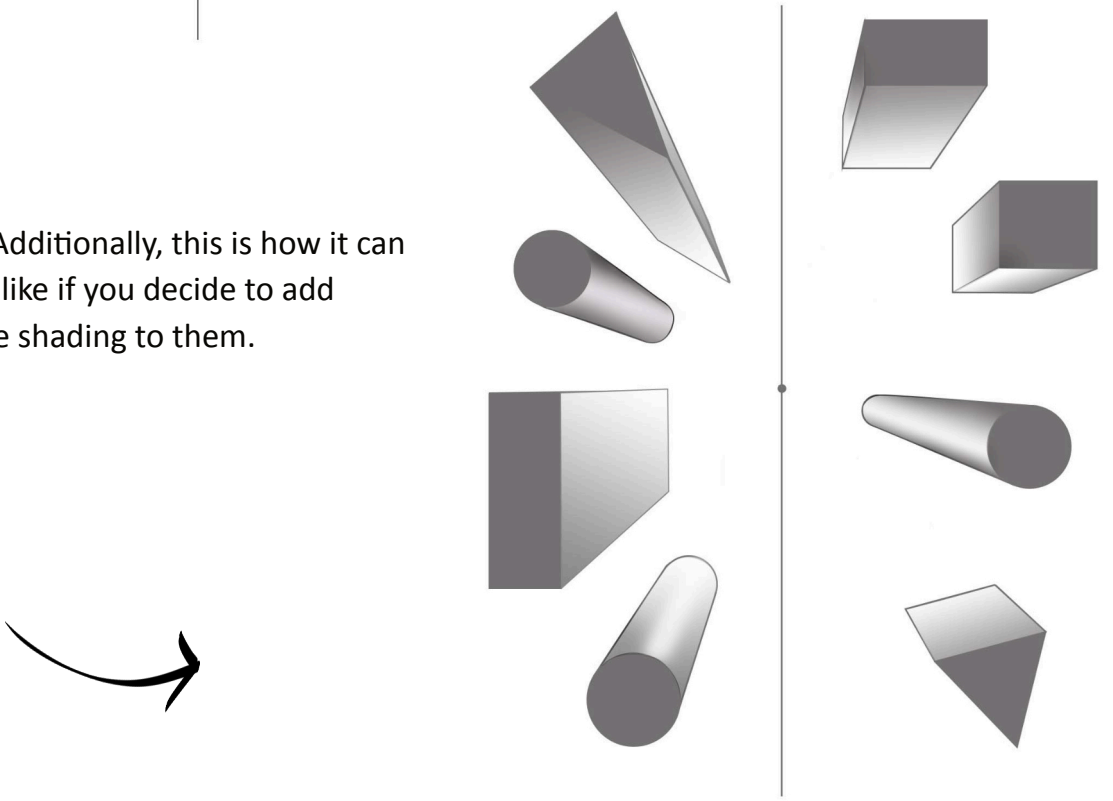


And this is how it should appear without the excess lines.

Additionally, this is how it can look like if you decide to add some shading to them.



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Know that this is called a 1-point perspective.

Additionally, there is a two-point perspective and a three-point perspective methods. They are similar to the 1-point perspective, but they involve additional vanishing points. As you've observed, the one-point perspective utilizes one vanishing point. On the other hand, the two-point perspective employs two vanishing points, and the three-point perspective incorporates three vanishing points.

Since you are a beginner and this is a beginner drawing book, our focus will remain on the one-point perspective, which you can use to draw many things in 3D.

## Second exercise:

Here is another exercise for you to practice. We began by drawing basic geometric shapes in 3D, but what about creating 3D letters?

How does that process work? Interested in giving it a try? Let's begin

**Take a piece of paper, then draw a horizontal line again**

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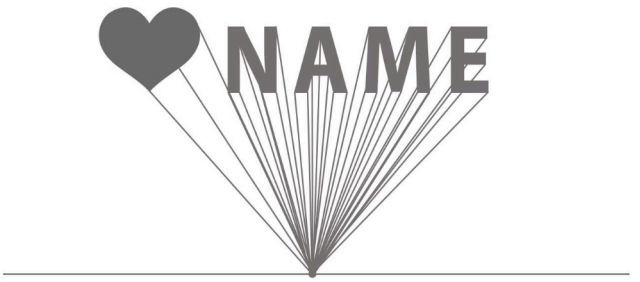
Then, on top of that horizontal line, write a name or word of your choice. If you wish, you can even add a heart next to that word or name, as shown below.

Now, draw lines connecting to the vanishing point.



Once you're finished, you can erase the guideline if desired. Make any final adjustments if necessary.

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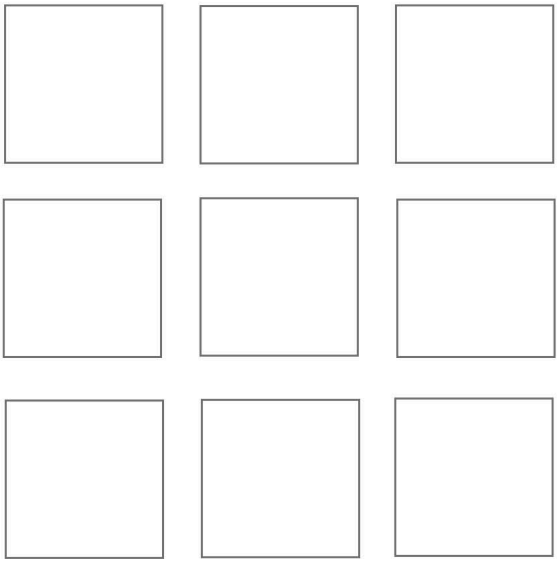
# Final exercise for you to attempt:

Here's another perspective exercise, and it's the last one for today. This exercise is a bit more advanced but very cool. Not only will you practice drawing in perspective, but you'll also work on shading techniques.

**1**

First, start by drawing nine squares, all of the same size.

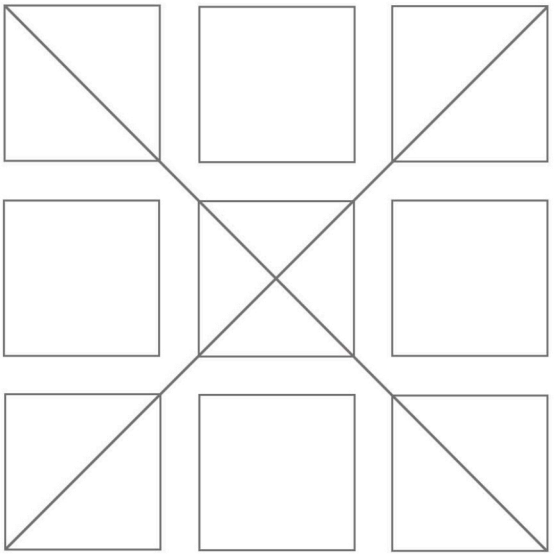


If you encounter any difficulty with this step, you have a couple of options. You can measure the dimensions of...

...the drawing and replicate something similar. Alternatively, you can take a piece of paper and trace over the original drawing. You can also simply download it from: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

**2**

Once you've drawn the nine squares, proceed to draw two diagonal lines as demonstrated. One should go from the upper left corner to the lower right corner, and the second should go from...



...the upper right corner to the lower left corner.

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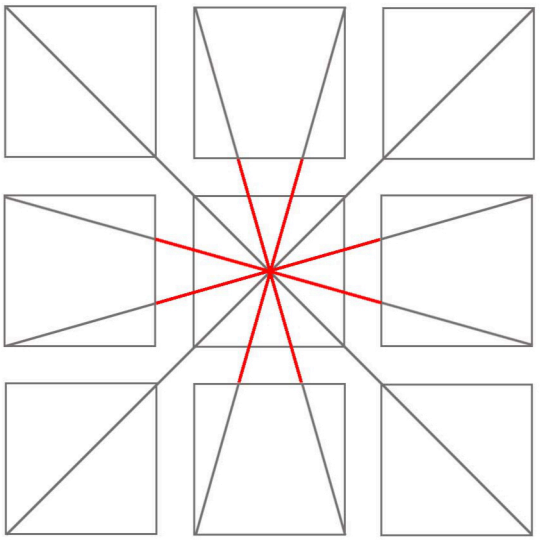
**3**

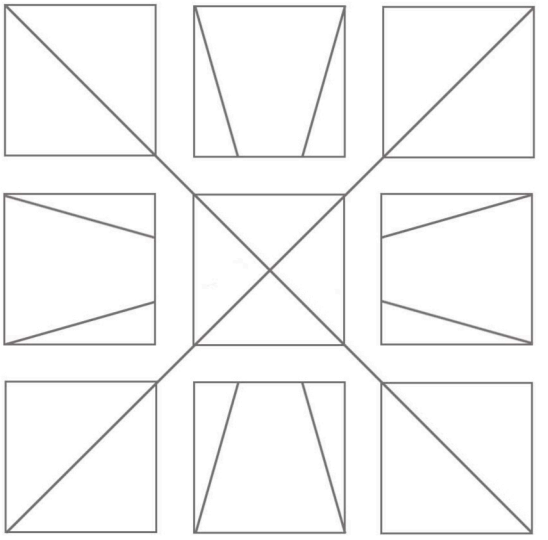


Draw four diagonal lines, each extending from the corners of the left square and converging at the middle center point, as illustrated on the left.

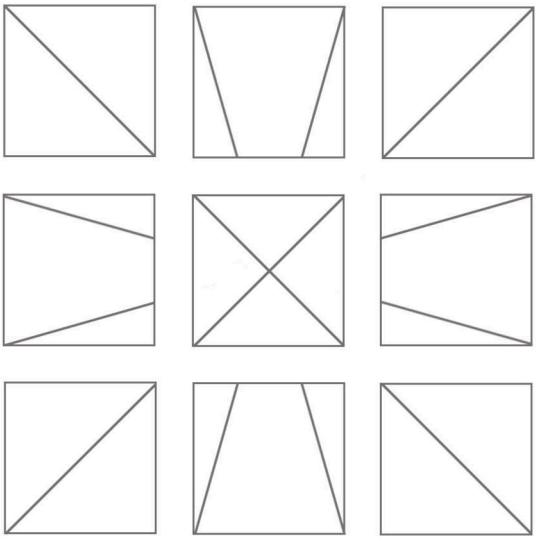
Then erase the red lines that are visible on top, which will result in the outcome shown on the right.

Next, proceed to erase the other excess lines to achieve the result depicted above.

**4**



**5**



On the next page, you will begin shading, focusing on one square at a time. Add shading to create a 3D perspective effect.

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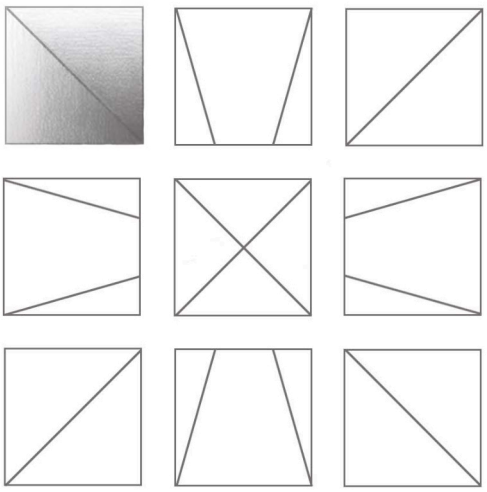
6



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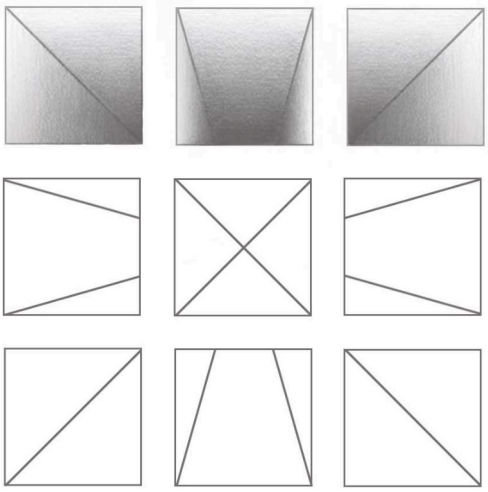

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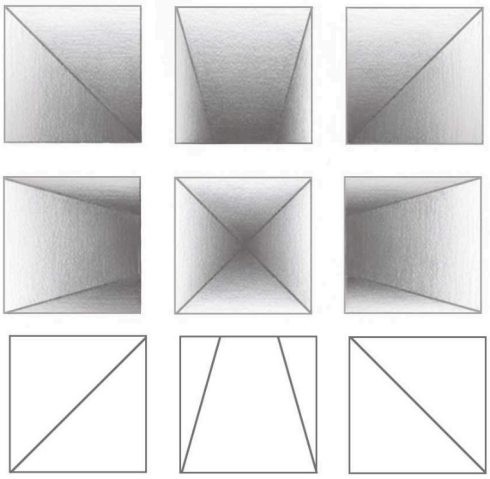

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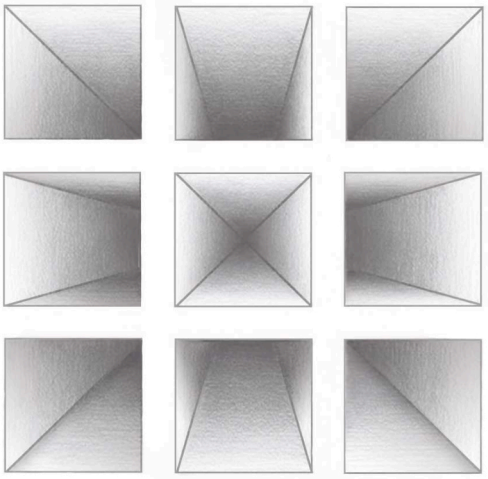

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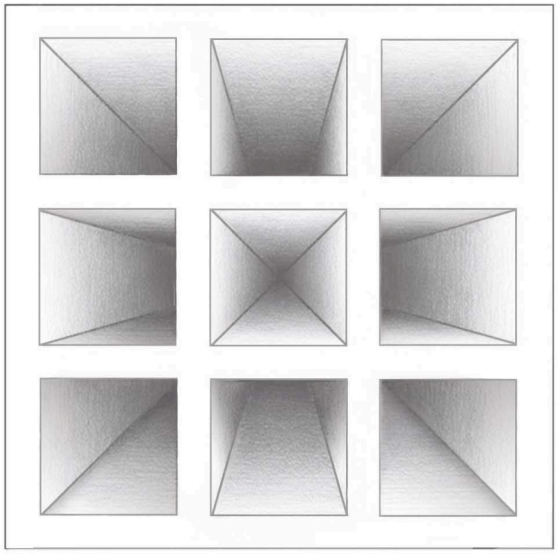

At the end, the result should look like this. So, what are you waiting for? Give it a try!

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# Understand the use of gridlines

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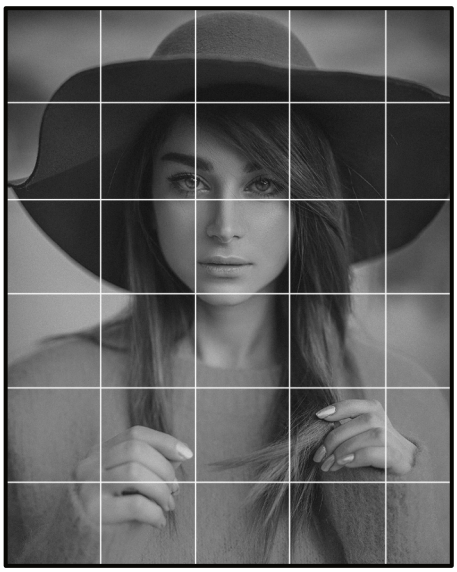
# Day SEVEN

07

*"Unity is vision; it must have been part of the process of learning to see." —*
***Henry Adams***

## Step 8: Explaining the Principles of Using Gridlines and the Importance of Converting a Photo to Greyscale.



Today, I'm going to discuss the grid method with you. This is one of the most commonly used techniques among beginners.

Even artists who aim to achieve accurate proportions utilize this method in their drawings.

### Understand what this method is and how it works

This isn't some magic trick that will instantly enable you to draw perfectly. Instead, it's a technique that simplifies the drawing process, making your goals more attainable and significantly speeding up your progress. With this method, you'll be able to learn progressively how to shade, understand proportions, notice details, and master many other aspects of drawing.

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As time goes on, you'll gradually develop the skills to create your own remarkable drawings.

Basically, the grid method involves taking a picture of your choice, such as this one.

*Source: ©Pixabay*

To then add gridlines to it like so.

## The Advantages of Using the Grid Method are:

- Achieve accurate proportions.
- By focusing on one square at a time, you tend to see and perceive the details more clearly.
- For artists, it is both a game-changer and an eye-opener.
- Helps you improve your drawing skills gradually.
- You'll see rapid improvements and quicker results.
- It helps simplify complex subjects (objects, faces, subjects, etc.).

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# How to Proceed ; A Step-by-Step Guide

Choose a photo of your choice. If you're unsure about which photo to select, refer back to the list you created on day 2 or check the chapter titled **"How to Always Have Drawing Ideas" on page 298.**

For the purpose of this example, I will use the picture of a random girl.

**Steps to Follow:**

**1** **Choose a picture you'd want to draw**

Let's say this is the reference image you'd want to use.

*Source: ©Ali pazani via Pexels*

**PS: Make sure to select a high-quality reference picture; it will be easier for you to copy and draw the details.**

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## 2 Turn the picture to grayscale by applying a gray filter to it.

After you have chosen the image you want to draw, the next step is to convert it to grayscale.

You can easily do this by using well-known image editing software or simply by editing the photo on your device, whichever you prefer.

By editing a photo on your phone, you can easily apply a grayscale filter to it without needing any additional app.

## Print the picture 3

After editing your reference image, simply print it to the size you want.

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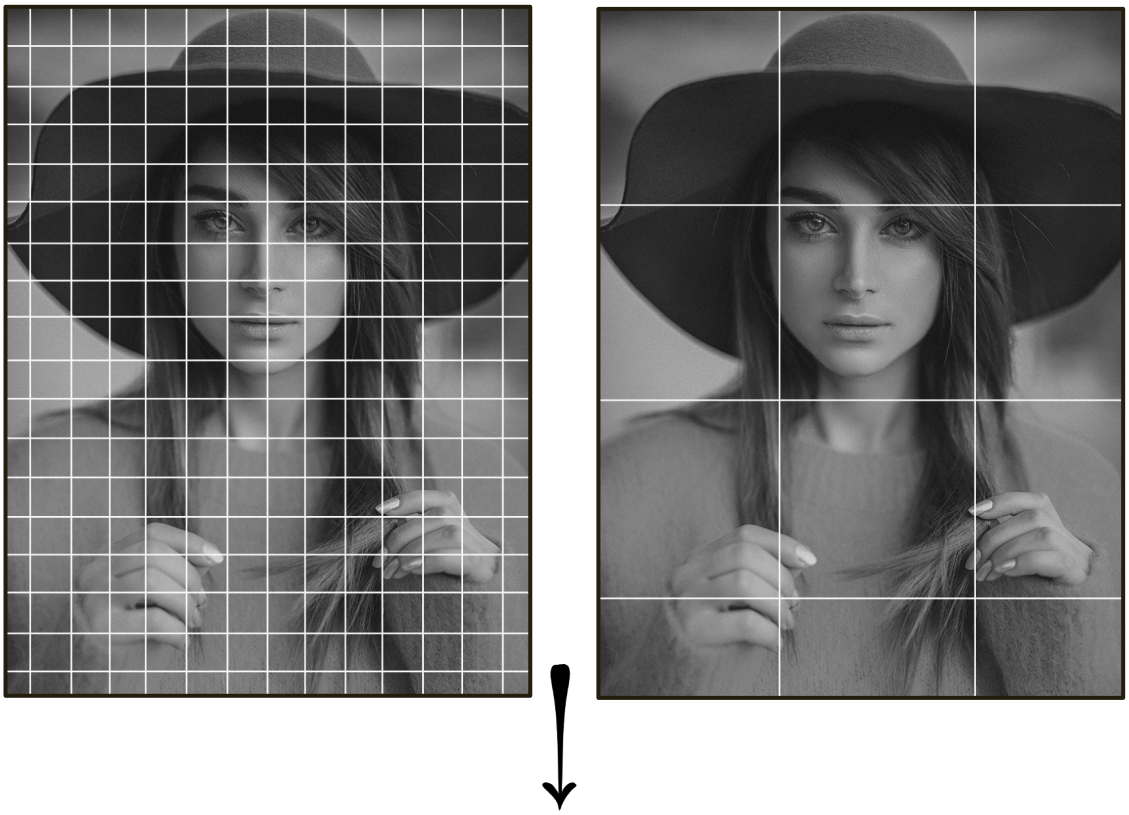
## 4 How to add grid lines: Knowing the differences when it comes to sizes



**Important to Know**

When drawing grid lines, each square must be of the same size. You can define and use the size that suits you best. Personally, I have found that 4 cm by 4 cm is an optimal size, as it is neither too small nor too large.

**Note:** The smaller the squares, the more they will help you draw the details; however, the potential drawback is that you might get lost due to the larger number of squares to draw. Additionally, the larger the squares, the more complicated it will become, but it will be simpler to know which square is which.

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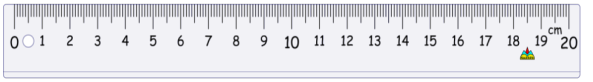
## 5 After choosing the desired size, draw the grid lines on your printed photo

Once you know the size of the grids, the method for adding gridlines is very straightforward. Because you will only need to mark and trace with a ruler your reference photo that you have turned into grayscale.




**How to proceed:**

If, for instance, you have decided that each grid will be 4 cm, take your printed reference, and using a ruler, mark a line every 4 cm, like this.

## 6

Then, step by step, draw the grids by first drawing all the horizontal lines and then drawing the vertical lines.

Continue this process until you achieve a result similar to the reference on the right.

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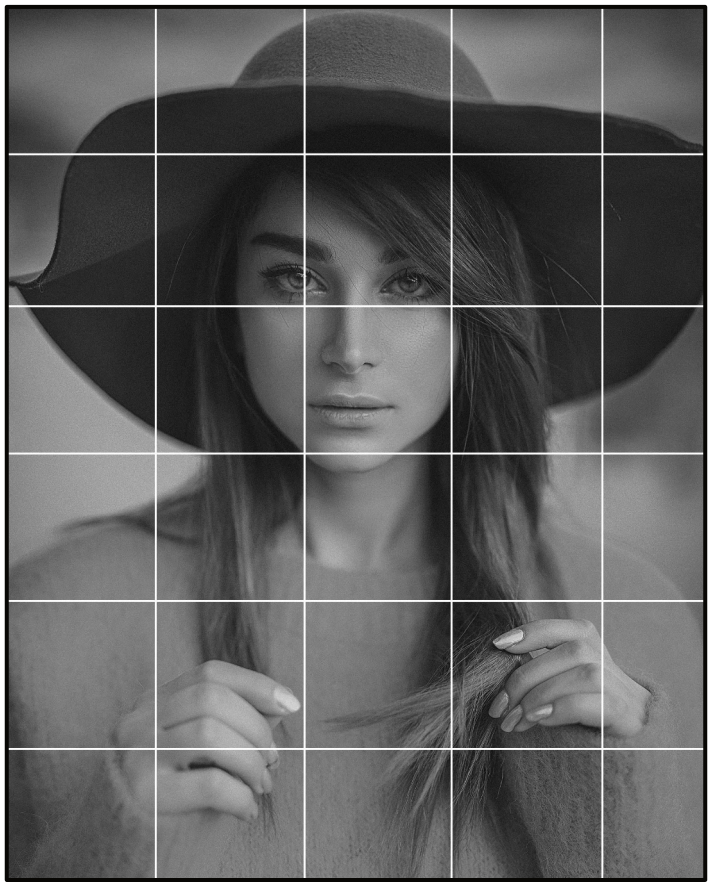
7

## This Is How a Final Gridded Reference Image Should Look



In the following pages, I'm going to teach how one can draw more easily using this technique.

For your information, there are apps and websites that can automatically add grids to your reference images. For more information, visit my website at **https://www.khouriamelia.com/**

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# Cheat to learn

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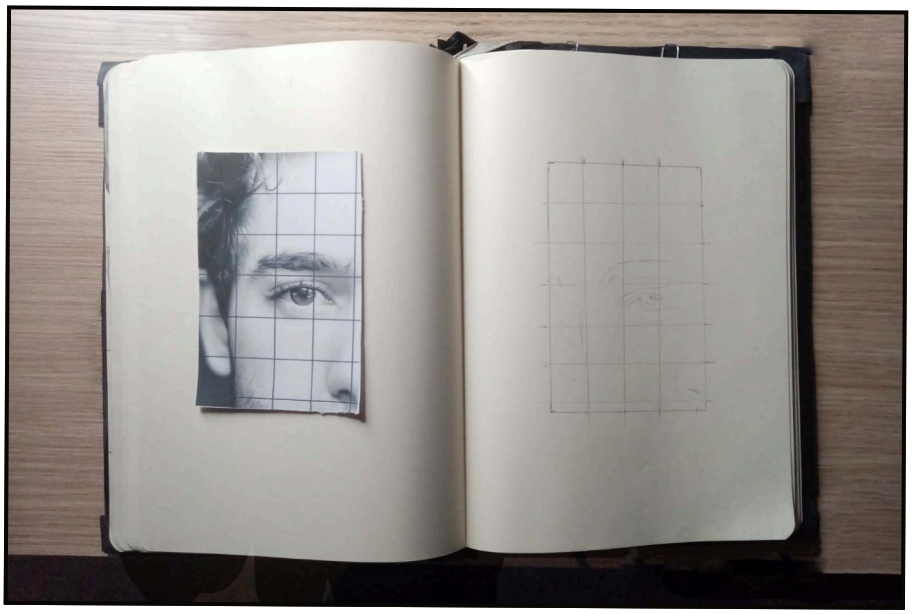
## Your two options:

Day 7

After drawing the gridlines, you have two options: either use the traditional way or employ a shortcut for learning; which I call “cheat to learn.”

**1)- The traditional way** involves placing your reference image next to you, replicating and drawing the same grid as the one used on your reference image, and then proceeding to draw from there. Focus on one square at a time until the drawing is completed.



**2)- The way to cheat to learn,** or in other words, the C.T.L. Drawing Method, is what I would recommend for a complete beginner. With this method, you'll learn to draw through the process of drawing.

As Aristotle once said himself:

**"What we must learn we learn by doing so, it is by building that one becomes a builder and by playing the zither that one becomes a zitherist"**

**-Aristotle.**

**The C.T.L. Drawing Method** essentially involves 'cheating' by tracing over a paper placed on top of your reference image. For further clarity, the correct steps to follow are provided on the right.

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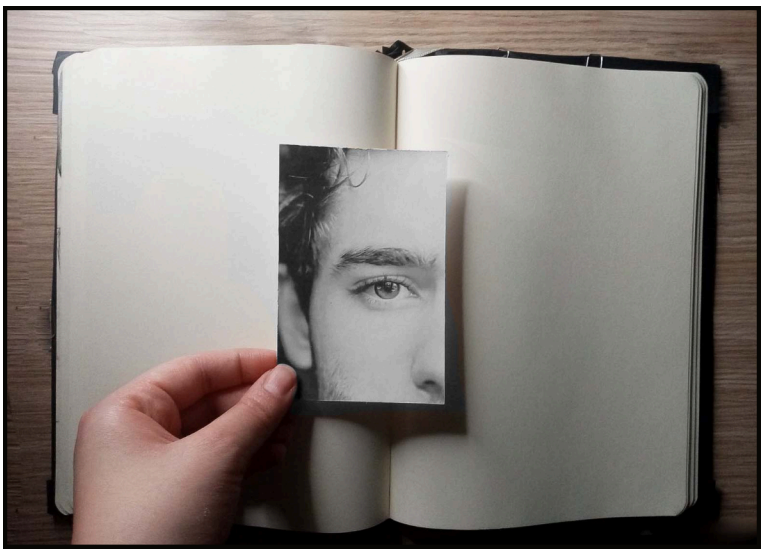
# How to apply the C.T.L. Drawing Method

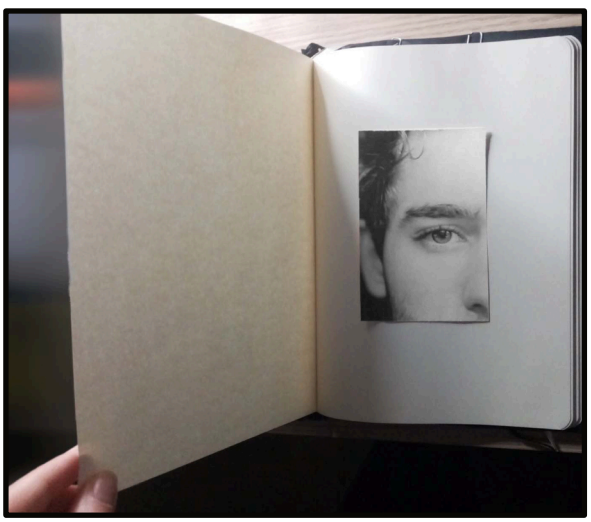
**1** **Step One: Print your reference picture that has a grayscale filter applied.**

**First:**

Print the reference image you'd like to draw. Then, once it's printed, if you prefer, you can trim away the extra paper, leaving just the reference image, as shown.



**Step Two: Place the reference picture underneath the paper or page where you will be drawing.** **2**



Whether you're drawing in a sketchbook or simply on a piece of paper, place your reference picture beneath the page you intend to draw on.

**PS: You can secure your reference beneath the paper where you will be drawing by simply using a few pieces of tape or paperclips. This will ensure that your reference photo and paper remain firmly in place while you trace.**

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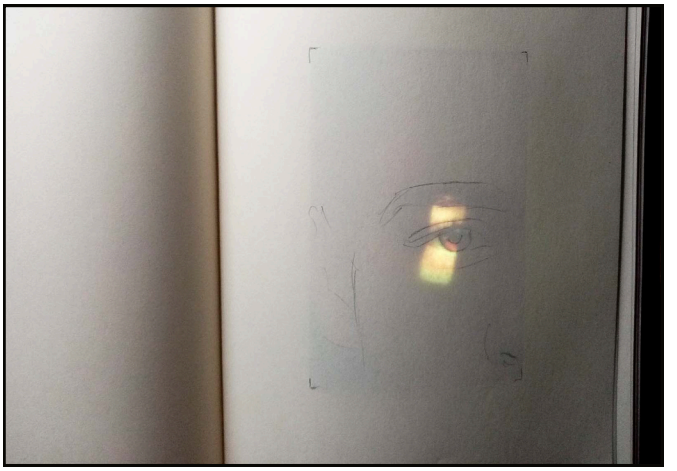
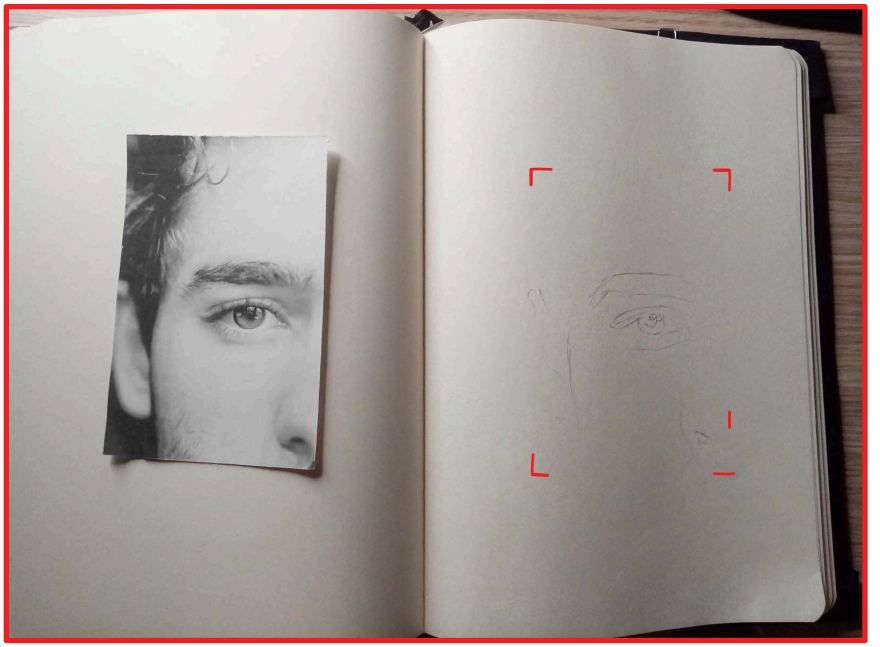
3 **Step Three: Place some form of upward-facing light source beneath the reference image, as demonstrated below. This will make it easier to for you trace over.**

Then, trace the main lines of your reference image. If it's a face, draw the contours of the mouth, nose, ears, and eyes *(don't forget to trace the irises and the highlights of the eyes as well, as they play a significant role in the outcome of the drawing.)*



You could draw everything else perfectly, but if you mess up the eyes, it won't matter what else you've drawn well.

**Step Four: Before removing the reference image, start by tracing the corners of the reference image.** 4



This will make it easier for you to replicate the exact contour of your reference image later, in addition to using the grids.

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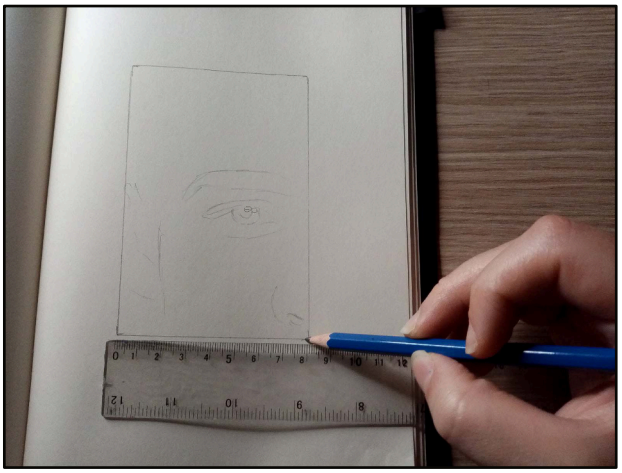
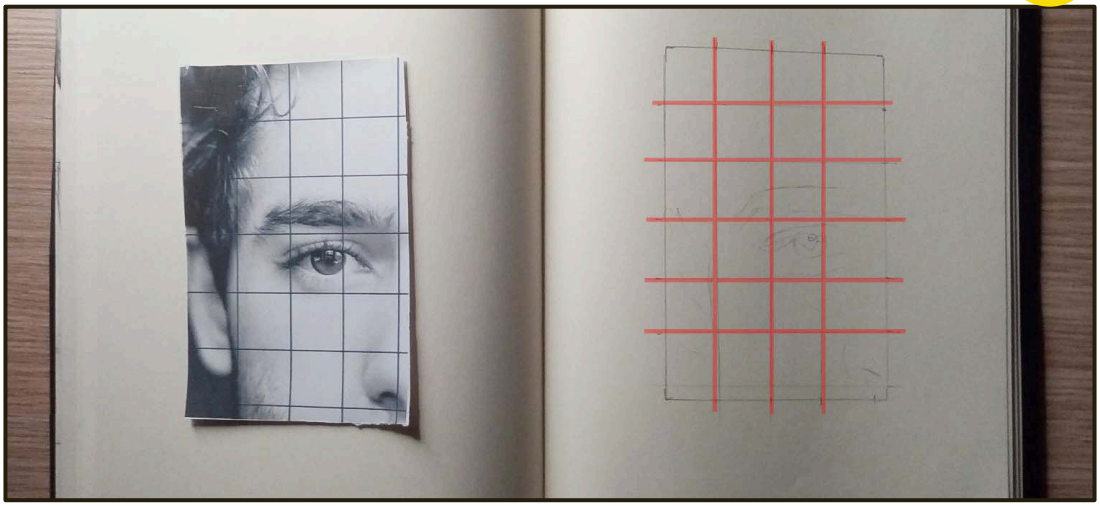
## 5 Step five: Trace the contour of your drawing



With the aid of the corners you traced before removing the reference image from beneath your paper, outline the contour of your drawing. In our example, it's essentially a rectangular shape.

## Step six: Apply the gridlines to your drawing. 6



Apply the same gridlines your going to apply to the reference image to the page where you're going to draw.

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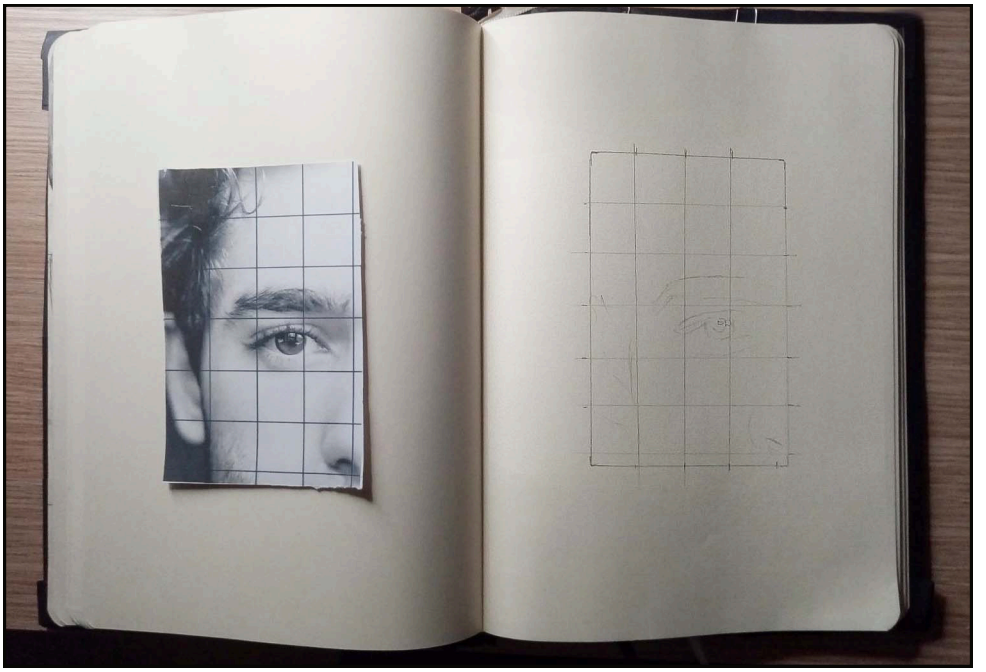

**PS:** Be careful not to apply too much pressure with your pencil when drawing the grids, as you'll need to erase them later. If you've applied too much pressure, your drawing might appear inaccurate due to the visible pencil marks, regardless of how well you've drawn it.

## Why bother?

Sometimes, you have to go step by step. You want to learn how to draw, not to start worrying and focusing on making the same outline, the same gridlines in the same place. With this method, you go straight to drawing without worrying about the little details.

Also, this way you will get good results faster, which will create satisfaction and motivation to practice and improve.

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Note that with time, of course, you can do this the traditional way, which is to outline the entire drawing without cheating.

## Tricks to know

As a beginner, always choose a good-quality picture. If you're selecting a reference photo of a face, pay close attention to the eyes.

*Source: ©Aanna tarazevich via Pexels*

*Source: ©Ibadat Singh via Pexels*

If you can clearly see the iris and highlights, then you know you've found a high-quality picture. If you cannot, it's better to find an image where you can discern the details of the eyes.

## Time to practice !

In the following pages, I'm going to share some reference images for you to use and practice with. If you would like to download them for free, simply visit: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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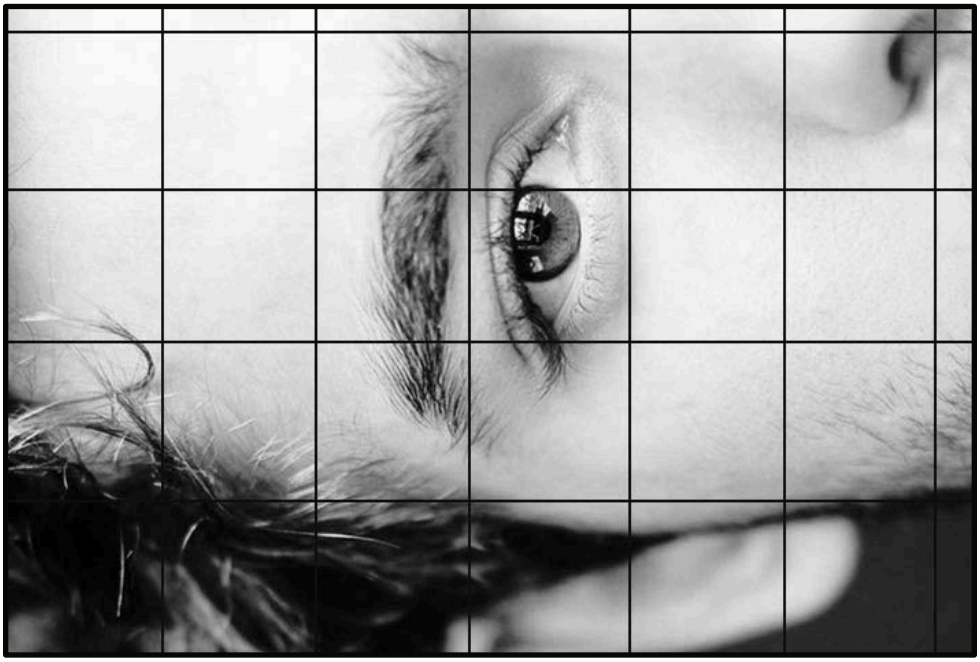
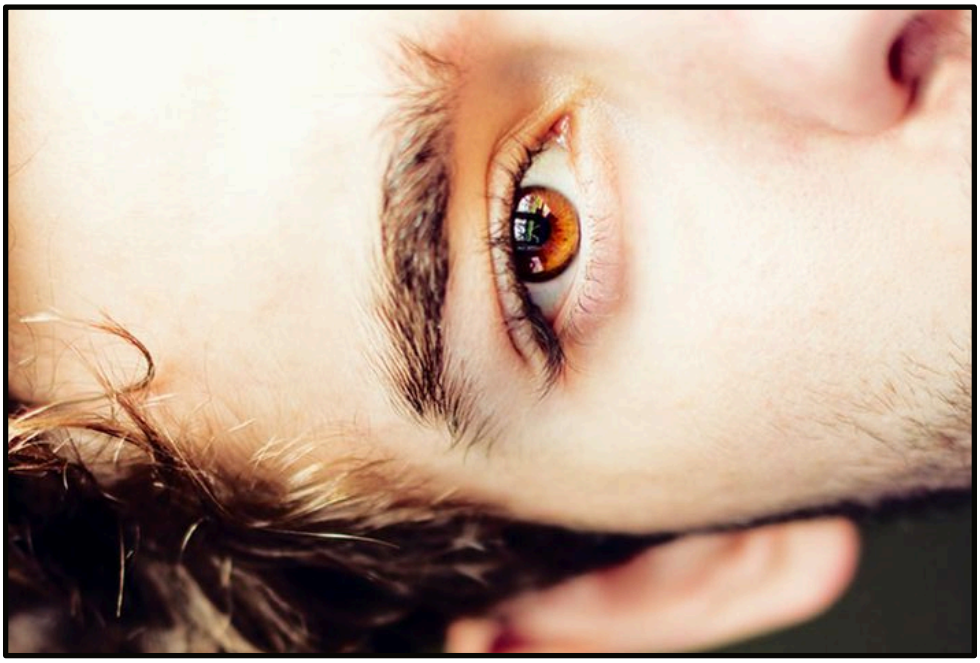
Day 7

## Reference images for you to choose and practice with for today's lesson.





Source: © Image via Pinterest

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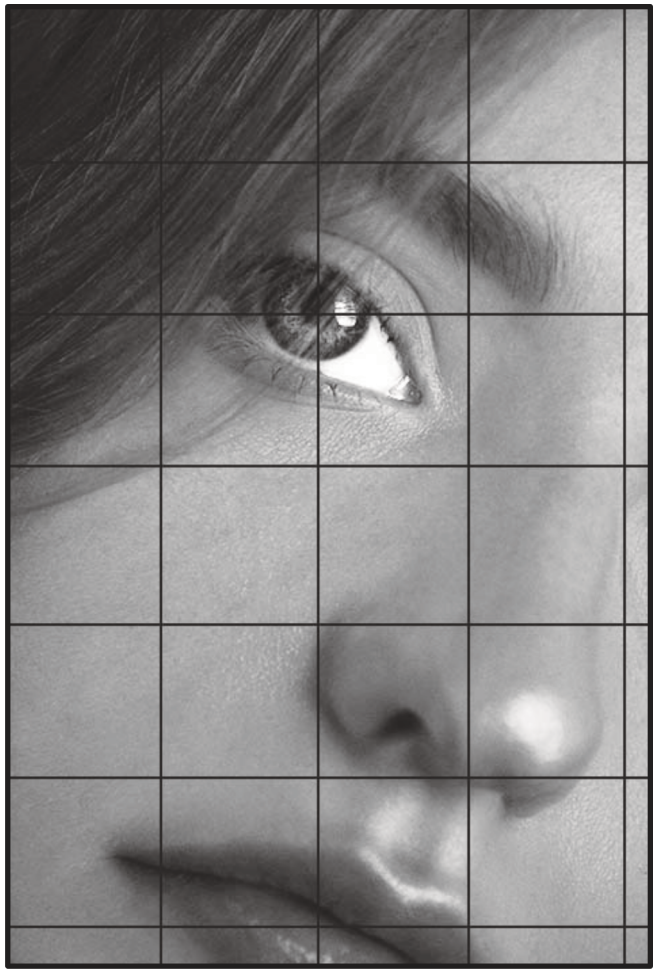

*Source: ©Chloe Amaya via Pexels*

Download for free these reference images: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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Day 7



Download for free these reference images: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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*Source: ©Engin Akyurt via Pexel*

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Source: ©Lil artsy via Pexel

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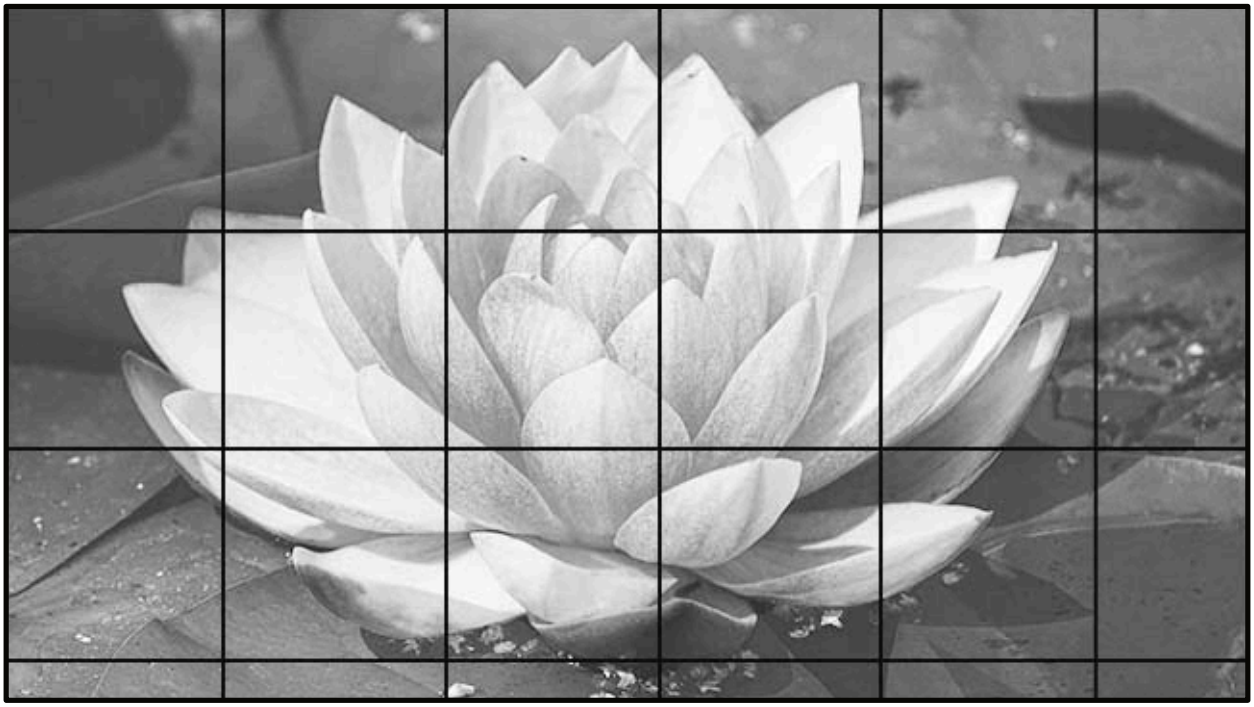

*Source: ©image by Susanne Jutzeler, Schwelz via Pixabay*

Go to page 234 for more reference images with grids or go to: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links** to download all the reference images of this book.

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# Light and Shadows

08

“You need the dark in order to show the light.”

— Bob Ross

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Day 8

# In Addition to Yesterday's Lesson

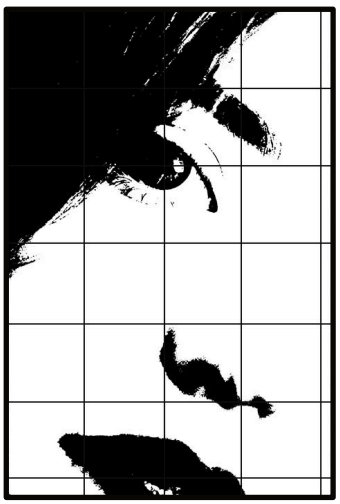
Welcome to day 8! Congratulations on coming this far. Before we dive into today's topic, I want to introduce you to an even simpler way of drawing using grids. I hope yesterday's lesson wasn't too challenging for you. If it was, here's something that might be a bit easier for you to try. For this exercise, you'll need both black and white photos.

## How using black and white photo can be even more helpful:

*Source: ©Chloe Amaya via Pexels*

When you convert your reference image to black and white (greyscale), drawing becomes easier with fewer elements to focus on.

By tracing it, you can simplify the process. Moreover, seeing good results will further motivate you to practice. It acts as a self-motivation system.



*Source: ©Chloe Amaya via Pexels*

In my opinion, it's the simplest way to draw since there are no intricate details involved.

Concentrate on the contour or the outline of the drawing.

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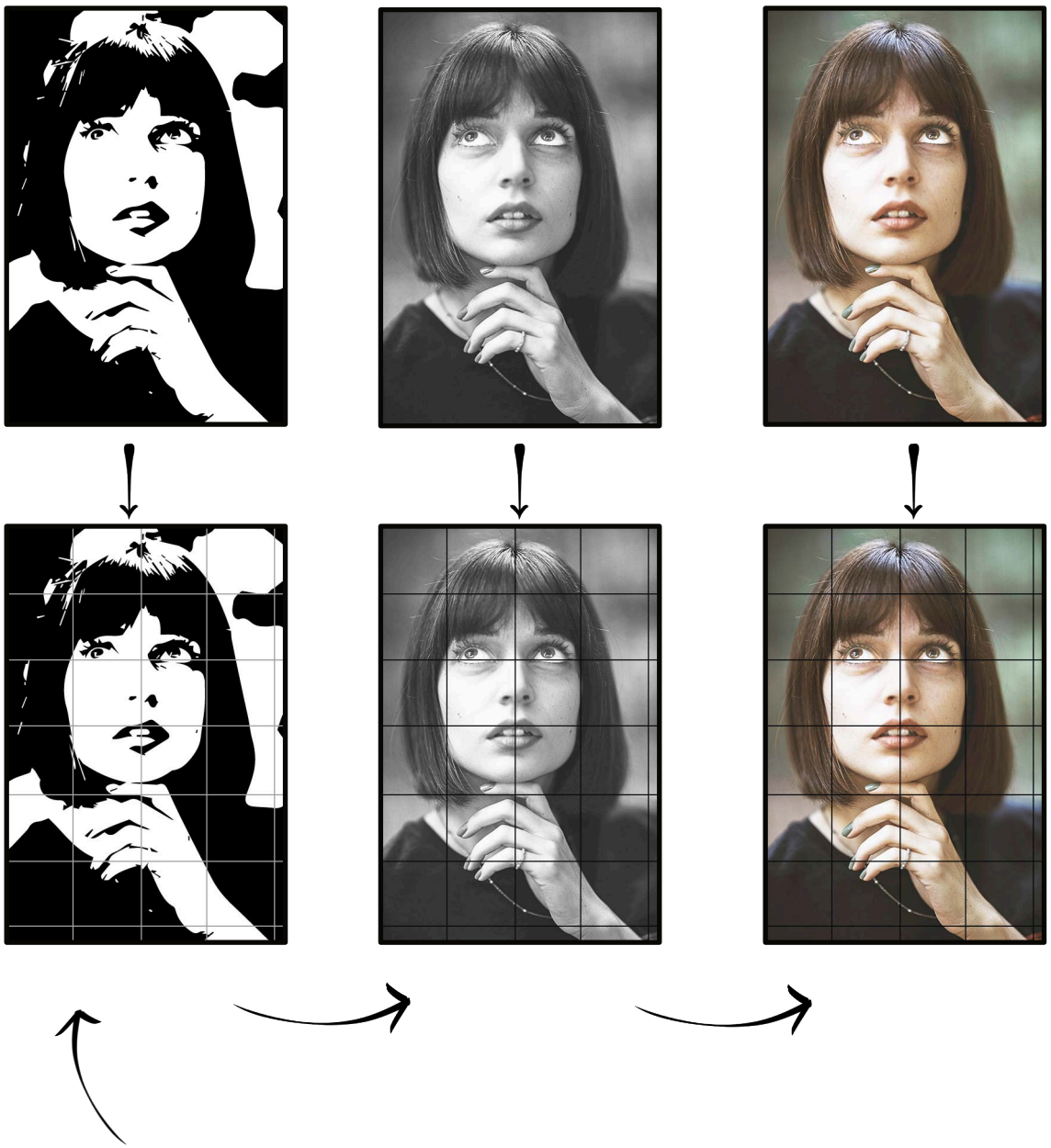
Instead of getting overwhelmed with every detail or struggling with shading and other complexities, this approach prevents discouragement and promotes self-motivation.

## Work with what works best for you



*Source: ©Engin Akyurt via Pexel*

With these three options, choose what works best for you. Ideally, start with the black and white vector images and gradually progress from there.

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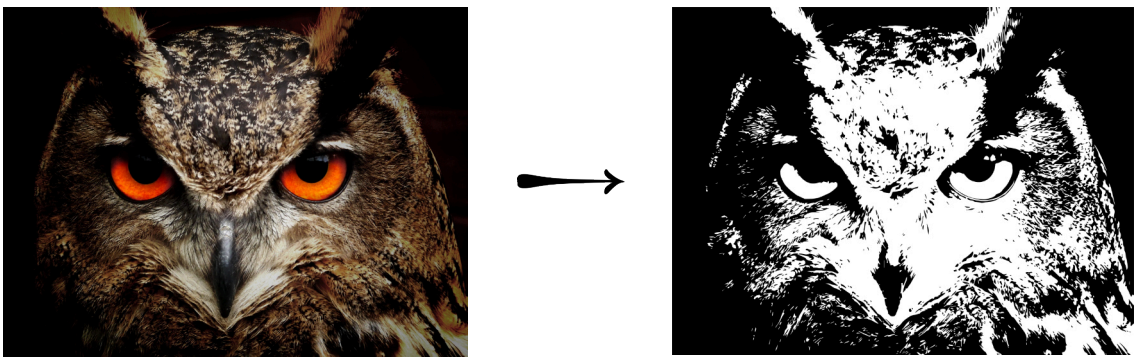
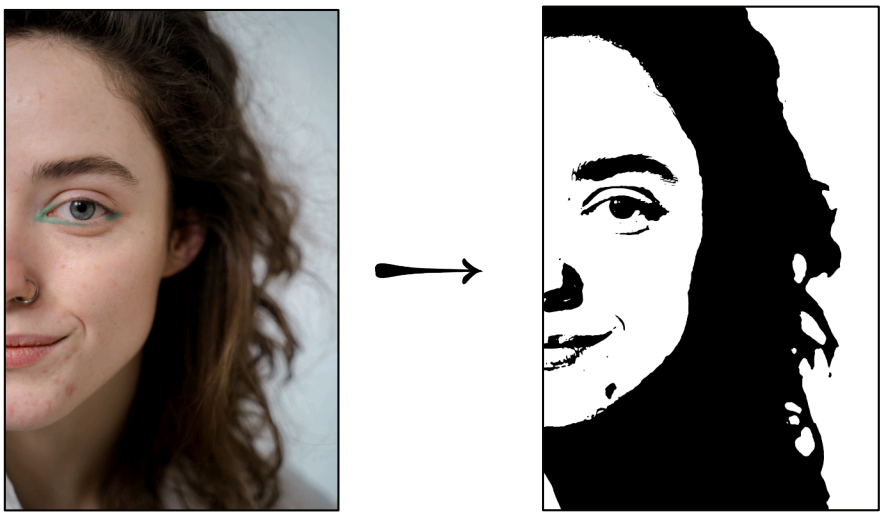
## Here are other examples:

*Source: ©Esús Esteban San José via Pexels*



*Source: ©Pexels*

You can find this image gridded **on page 272**



*Source: ©Ron Lach via Pexels*

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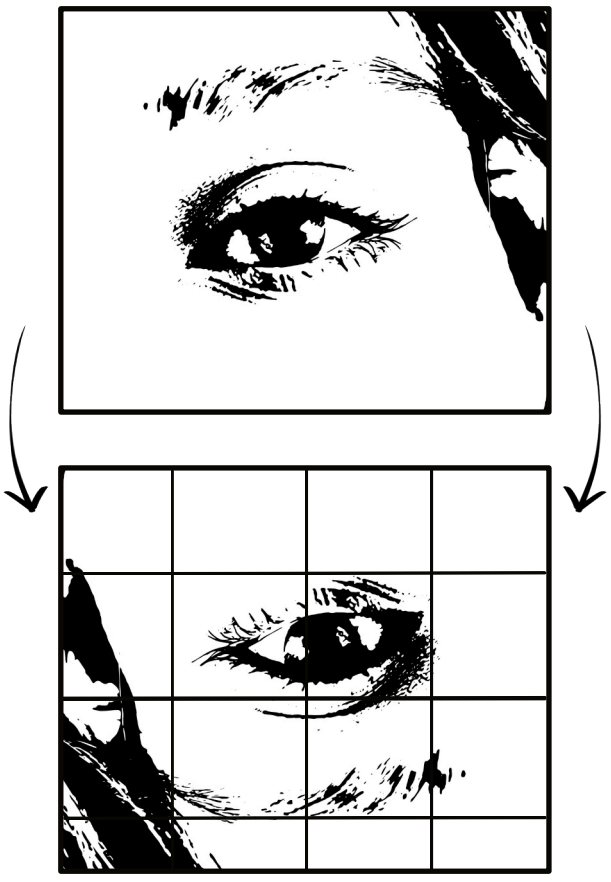
# Another Trick

I've already shown you a straightforward way to simplify a reference image, but here's another technique to make your drawing process even easier.

Sometimes, our brain has an odd tendency to overcomplicate things. Let's say you're a beginner trying to draw an eye for the first time. It isn't just your hand that's working; it's primarily your brain, attempting to figure out how to execute the desired action. You might think, "Drawing an eye? But there are eyelashes, the iris, and wait, this looks odd. Should I start over? Oh no, I forgot the eyebrow," and so on.

Instead, try flipping your black and white reference photo upside down. This approach encourages your brain to focus mostly on replicating lines accurately. Give it a shot; you might be pleasantly surprised.

*Source: ©Maksim Goncharenok*



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**How to create unique artworks in 2 steps**

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# Day EIGHT

08

*"Goals are about the results you want to achieve. Systems are about processes that lead to those results"* **— James Clear**

## Step 8: How to have drawing ideas and be able to create unique artworks in 2 simple steps.

After copying from various references and other artists' drawings, you might be eager to start creating your own unique artworks. But how can you do that? As a beginner, you haven't had enough time to develop your own drawing style. Furthermore, coming up with new drawing ideas might still be a challenge for you.

However, there is no need to worry; today, I'm going to share two steps that will aid you in easily creating unique artwork.

I will also provide you with some important insights to keep in mind, which can prove helpful throughout your artistic journey.

Also, be aware that this section complements what we covered on Day 4: **'Life is Full of Geometrical Shapes.'** As I mentioned that day, one needs to 'notice, to learn to see,' and this is what we are going to cover in this section.

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Day 8

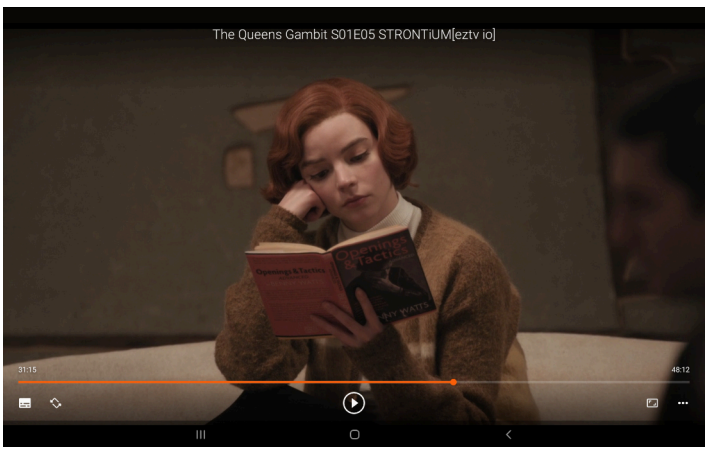
# Screenshots and Photo montages: What You Need to Know

The main reason for using references from platforms like Pinterest, Instagram, or others is that it helps prevent your artworks from becoming unoriginal. This is because you and many others might use the same reference, leading to similar or nearly identical drawings.

A trick for obtaining unique photo references is to take screenshots. Remember when I mentioned that you should view everything around you as an opportunity to draw? Well, now you're taking the next step.

**Another advantage:**
**Today, it's not only about learning to create unique drawings, but also about complementing day 4 to enhance your ability to identify opportunities.**

## 1)- Taking screenshots




*source: screenshot from the Tv Show: "The Queen's Gambit""*

Develop the habit of taking screenshots while watching videos (movies, TV shows, etc.). Cultivate the practice of searching for reference photos. You might be surprised by the number you'll discover once you establish this habit.

When watching movies or TV shows, actors often strike poses that can serve as reference photos when you pause the video at the right moment.

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# Here are a few examples of screenshots:

*source: screenshot from the TV show Dr.House*

*source: screenshot from the movie : "Last Christmas"*

*source: screenshot from the TV show "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"*

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*source: screenshot from the movie : "Greta"*

*source: screenshot from the TV show "Criminal Minds"*

*source: screenshot from the TV show "Heroes"*

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*source: screenshot from the movie : "Hard Target"*

*source: screenshot from the movie : "We need to talk about Kevin"*

*source: screenshot from the movie : "They Call Me Trinity"*

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*source: screenshot from the movie "Panic room"*

## 2)- How to use those screenshots to your advantage?

After taking several screenshots from movies or TV shows, tou can use them as a reference images for your drawings.

**Note:**

**1-** If you're not yet confident in drawing faces, avoid selecting screenshots of famous personalities. When people, including yourself, notice even a slight resemblance to the actor but not an exact match and point it out to you, it might lead to demoralization. Once you gain more confidence in your skills, you can begin to practice with screenshots of well-known personalities.

**Best Approach:**

**2-** Begin by using screenshots of ordinary individuals. If you're watching a movie, consider taking screenshots of background actors or those in supporting roles. This way, there will be no direct comparison, allowing you to create a unique and distinctive drawing.

**Make It Your Own:**

**3-** When using a screenshot of a person, you don't have to draw the entire person. Focus instead on specific parts of their body. Select what interests you and infuse it with your own drawing style. ***(Refer to page 311 to discover how one can find their own drawing style step by step.)***

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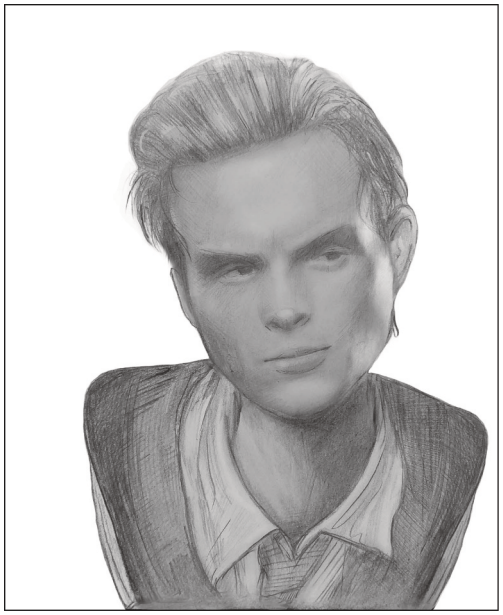
## Some examples :



*source: screenshot from the TV show “Criminal Minds ”*

*source: screenshot from the movie : “They Call Me Trinity”*

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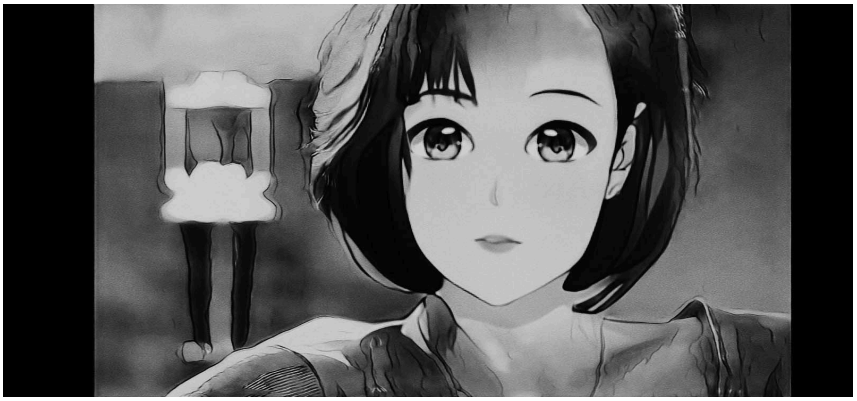
# 3) - You can draw the exact same thing or not

Day 8

*source: screenshot from the TV show "The X-Files "*

As said in the title, you have the option to replicate the screenshot by drawing the main lines, essentially tracing over the image. Afterward, you can either continue drawing based on your imagination or intentionally make alterations to avoid a direct copy of the reference or when trying to draw a famous personality.

**For example,** the image above portrays Gillian Anderson as Dana Scully in the widely acclaimed TV show **"The X-Files."** As you can see below I did copy...



**Neutral**

..some traits but I applied some variation so that it wouldn't look like Gillian

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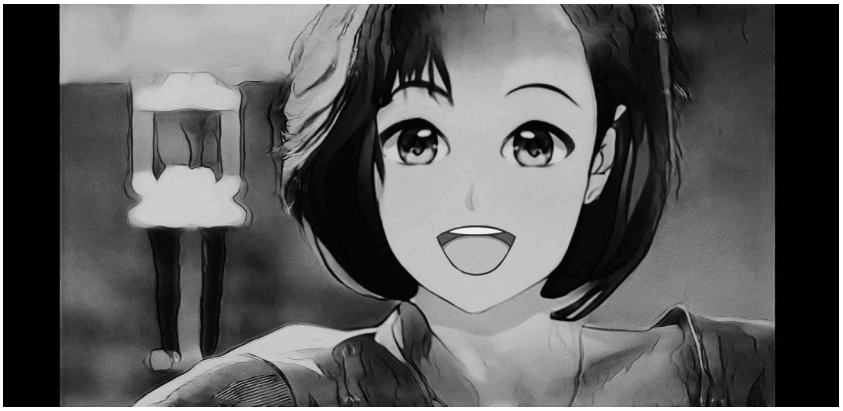
**Sad**



**Happy**

Anderson. Since you had seen the screenshot beforehand, you might have been able to notice a slight resemblance. However, if I hadn't shown you the reference image, you would never have been able to guess whom I drew.

## What I changed and what you can do too for your own drawings:

- **The eyes' direction**: In the reference, she is looking to the left, while in my drawing, she is looking straight ahead.

- **Drawing style**: I didn't draw it realistically; instead, I gave it a more "anime/ manga" look. You can do the same in your own drawing style.

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**Changing the facial expressions:** I've provided three examples to show that you can also experiment with drawing different facial expressions, leading to various types of drawings. For instance, if you have a screenshot of someone looking sad, try making that person to look happy by altering the drawing. There are many variations you can explore.

## What you can also do:

- **Perfecting the Drawing's Look without Relying on the Reference image:** Once you have a certain "foundation," set your drawing aside for a while. By doing something else and then returning to it, you'll gain a fresh perspective. You might be pleasantly surprised and satisfied with your drawing, or you might notice issues you hadn't previously, like odd-looking eyes or a crooked nose. After identifying the problems, try to rectify them without referencing the original image. Aim to improve your drawing's overall appearance as much as possible.

**Ps:** The little changes I mentioned and applied can also be incorporated into your own drawings. This is especially beneficial when the person you're attempting to draw is famous, and you either intend to avoid a highly accurate similarity or you're not yet proficient in realistic drawing techniques.

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## 4) - Taking only parts of the reference image

**Day 8**

*source: screenshot from the movie "Divergent "*

As I mentioned before, you don't have to draw everything from your screenshots. Instead, you can take your reference image, for instance, and zoom in on a specific area that you would like to draw.

As an example, if you're someone who is more at ease drawing eyes, or on the contrary, would like to practice drawing the eyes, then zoom in only on the area that you want, as I showcased here in this example.

In addition to that, you can create some variations by drawing the hair a little differently, as I did here, and opt for a more cartoonish or anime-style drawing instead of aiming for hyper-realism right from the start.

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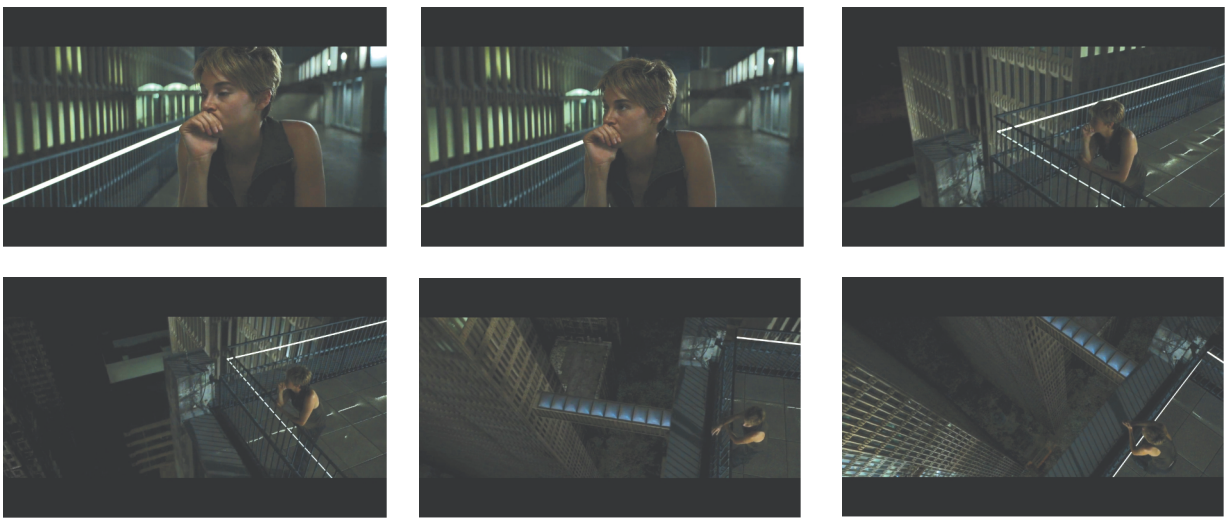
# 5) - Creating Comic Pages

Did you know that you can also create cool comic pages by using screenshots? I'll demonstrate how to do it right now!

*source: screenshot from the Tv Show: "The Queen's Gambit'*

## a) - Taking multiple screenshots of uninterrupted long scenes in movies

Perhaps you've never noticed, but in certain movie scenes or TV shows, there are long, uninterrupted sequences, like the one shown below, that can be fantastic for creating comic book pages.



*source: screenshot from the movie "Insurgentt "*

To help you better understand what I mean by that...

...turn the page!

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## Let's start with a shorter sequence, like the one below:

Day 8

*source: screenshot from the tv show: "This is us"*

### 1. Editing the screenshots

1

Now, with only these 4 screenshots, I can create a comic page by editing them before drawing anything.

I select the ones I want, zoom in on certain images, and arrange them in the desired order until the setup looks quite good.

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### 2. Start drawing and add the panel borders

Then, when I'm pretty satisfied with the results of my "montage," I'm going to start drawing. I make sure to draw the panel borders *(these are the borders that help visually separate and organize frames in a comic page).*

2

3

### 3. Adding dialogues

The next step you want to take, which can be done either beforehand or after you're done drawing, is to add dialogue balloons.

Dialogue balloons are where you can add text to make your character speak and bring your comic page to life.

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## Another Example

**Day 8**

Now that you understand how the process works, let's create a more complex comic page by using multiple screenshots.

In one episode of the TV show "Dr. House," there was a long continuous scene where the camera slowly turned around the main character. For this scene alone, I took around 25 screenshots. For the purpose of this example, I've chosen to display only 12 of them to give you an idea of how the scene unfolded, as you can see below.

*source: screenshots from the tv show: "Dr.House"*

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Now, out of these screenshots, I selected four of them. As you can see, the real trick lies in knowing when to zoom in and out.

**Note:**

As previously mentioned, be aware that taking screenshots of famous personalities can be a bit disadvantageous if you're aiming for a super unique drawing, as we would easily recognize who you intended to draw. However, on the other side, it could be motivating for some to draw their idol in a really cool way.

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## Taking random screenshots from different movies and turn them to a comic

Day 8

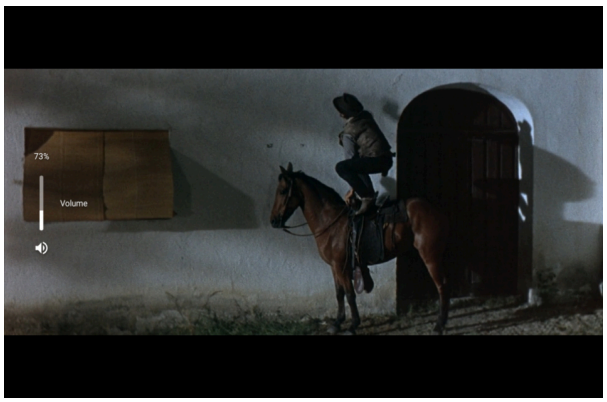
Now, imagine you've watched two movies and captured multiple screenshots from both of them. If you enjoyed both films, you might decide to take on a drawing challenge where you merge screenshots from these two movies into a single comic book.

In this manner, you can bring together two of your favorite actors into a single, innovative drawing. That's precisely what I'm going to guide you through today.

On the following page and the one after, I have a total of 11 screenshots from two different movies: "A Fistful of Dollars" and "Hard Target." Let's explore how we can artfully combine these images into two captivating comic pages.

### Here are the screenshots

***Source: 6 screenshots from the movie: "A fistful of dollars"***



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***Source: 5 screenshots from the movie : Hard Target***

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## Final Result:

You can have fun adding the dialogues yourself.

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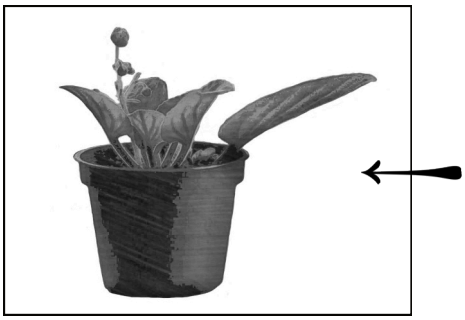
## 6) - Take screenshots of what's happening in the background

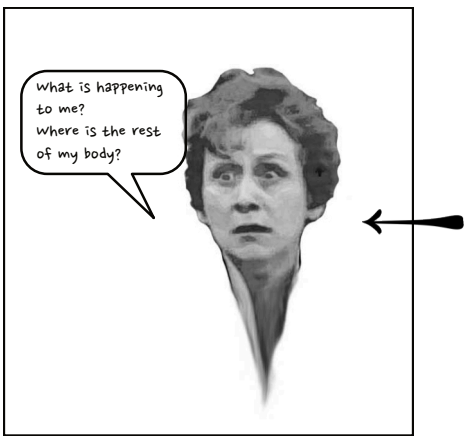
**Day 8**

Sometimes, you might find interesting elements in the background that are worth taking screenshots of. This can lead to obtaining more unique references, as you'll be capturing something or someone that appears on screen for only a few seconds or minutes.

*source: screenshot from the movie "They call him TrinityI "*



*source: screenshot from the asian movie " YI YI "*



*source: screenshot from the TV Show: "The Nanny"*

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## 7) - Taking screenshots from other platforms

**Keep in mind the following:** Taking screenshots is not limited to just films or TV shows; it can also apply to videos on YouTube or other platforms featuring unknown individuals, objects, landscapes, and more. For example, while watching a documentary, you might spot a captivating flower, landscape, or other interesting things to draw.

So, essentially, keep your mind open and try to observe what others might overlook. Anything has the potential to become material for your artistic projects.

**Another Example of Taking Screenshots from YouTube:**

*source: screenshot of Johnny Depp at TheEllenShow with Gwyneth Paltrow*

Here's another example: Let's say you're a fan of Johnny Depp and you were watching one of his interviews. Instead of searching for a photo of him online, try to pay attention to his every move in his video interviews. When you notice something worth capturing, take a screenshot. Who knows, it could be your next drawing idea.

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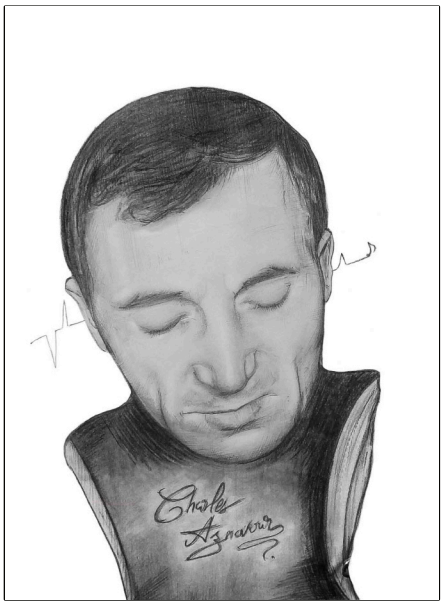
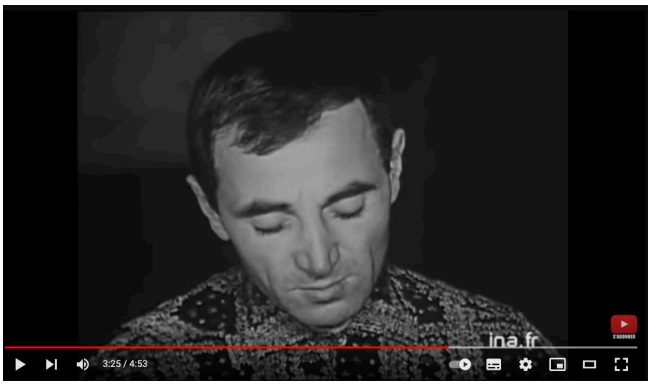
**Last example:**

Day 8



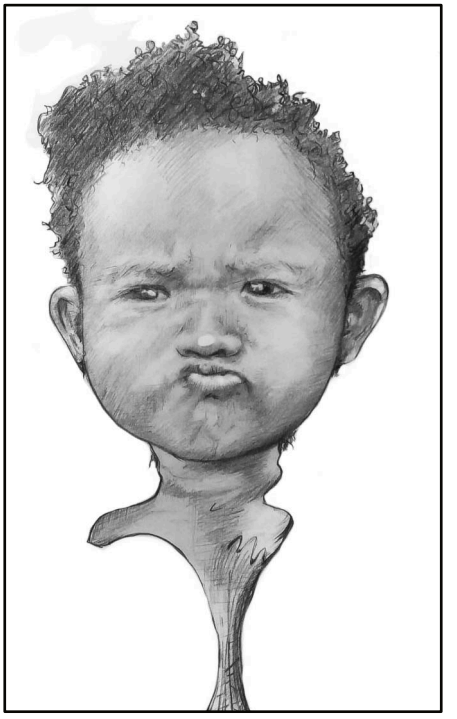




While watching a music video of one of my favourite singers, Charles Aznavour, I noticed him slightly tilting his head. I paused the video, took a screenshot, and found myself with an amazing and unique reference image that I was able to use for one of my drawings.

## Why Copying from Pinterest Can Be Bad (Sometimes)

To summarize this section, unique references are highly valuable when aiming to create amazing drawings. So, where can you find them? Simply by taking screenshots of various sources such as movies, TV shows, documentaries, YouTube videos, and more. But it doesn't end there. You can also take pictures of yourself, for example, capturing your hand from different angles if you're interested in creating distinctive hand drawings.

Many artists rely on Pinterest for finding reference images, which can be incredibly helpful for those who draw for enjoyment and want to improve their skills. However, if you spend some time browsing Pinterest, you might notice that certain references become overused, leading to drawings that lack uniqueness, as they resemble references seen hundreds of times on Pinterest.



*Only drawing in this book made with reference taken from Pinterest*

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# Your Homework

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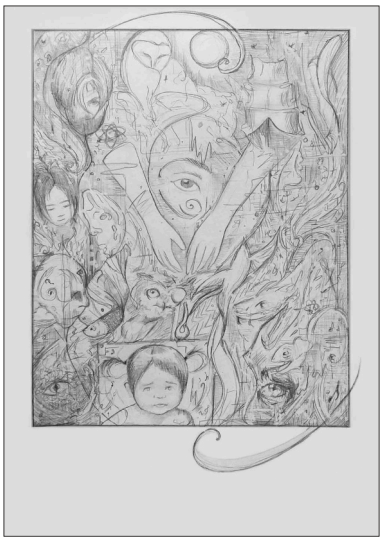
# Your Homework Of Today

Go to Pinterest to search for and collect some images and create a montage out of them. And, of course, develop the habit of always taking screenshots whenever you come across an opportunity.

## Additional ideas:

Here are some additional drawing ideas that complement this section and that you can try whenever you feel like it:



**1. Doodling:** Take a piece of paper and open Pinterest. Choose the first photo that it proposes to you and start drawing it on the page. Once you're done, based on what you've drawn, search on Pinterest for similar items that come to your mind. Continue this process until you fill your page. This is how I created the drawing on the right.

**2. Think of a song you like**, then search for pictures that could represent that song. Afterward, create a montage of the pictures you found and start drawing! You could also include some of the song's lyrics in your artwork.

**3. Choose an emotion** (happiness, anger, sadness, depression, etc.). For example, if you choose happiness, search for reference images related to that specific emotion. To help you beforehand, make a list of everything that makes you happy. Repeat this process for other emotions. You can even add sentences, quotes, or song names related to a specific mood.

**4. Look for pictures of people's eyes that you love.** These could be your family and friends or even famous individuals like actors or band singers.

**Side note: Prevent art block by creating a file and collecting numerous screenshots. This way, on days when you're faced with art block and don't know what to draw, you'll have a file filled with ideas that can serve as inspiration.**

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PRACTICE.
PRACTICE.
PRACTICE.

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# Days Left

9-10-11-12-13-14

*"Success has to do with deliberate practice. Practice must be focused, determined, and in an environment where there's feedback."* — ***Malcolm Gladwell***

**Step 9: Practice drawing using grid line images for 6 days straight.**

Now it's time for you to spread your wings and start practicing. Having reached this point, you now have a grasp of some of the basics. However, it's time to put into action what you've learned and keep practicing to improve. In the upcoming pages, I'll present a series of gridded reference photos featuring various interesting subjects for you to draw: eyes, faces, flowers, and more. This will enable you to practice drawing what you enjoy without the concern of deciding what to draw.

You can choose to either draw in this book or visit my website: www.khouriamelia.com to download all the reference images for free. If you opt to use the references from this book and then attempt to replicate them in your sketchbook, apply what you've learned on day 7.

You can refer back to page 177 to refresh your memory on how to apply grid lines. Otherwise, go ahead and start practicing!

Note: You can use the reference images provided in this section or search for your own reference images and apply the grids as shown on day 7.

And always remember: Outline → grid line → main lines, then focus on one box at a time. Have fun! You can do it!

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# Reference images

# For you to use

DAY

NINE-TEN-
ELEVEN-
TWELVE -
THIRTEEN
&
FOURTEEN

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**Download for free the references from this section by going to:**
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*Source: ©Felipe Tavares via Pexels*

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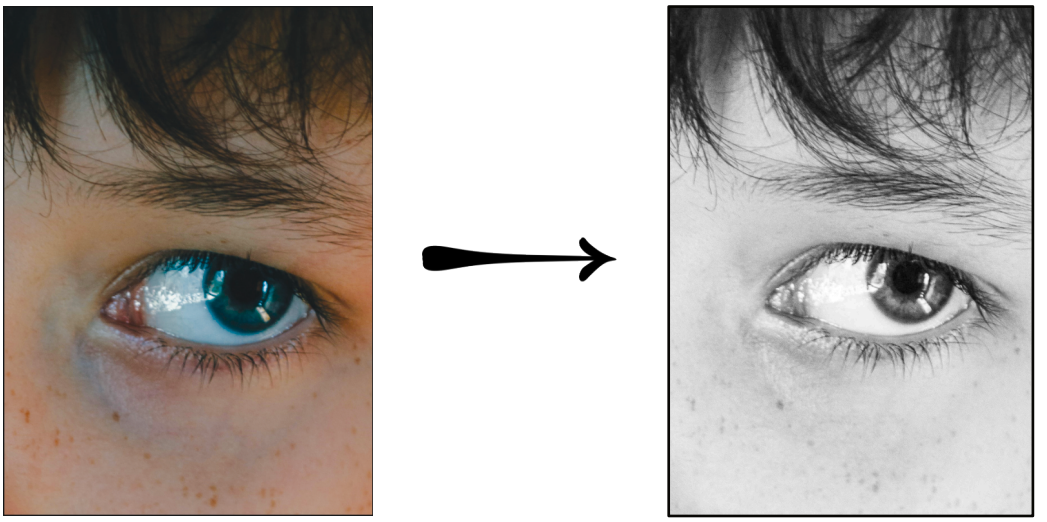
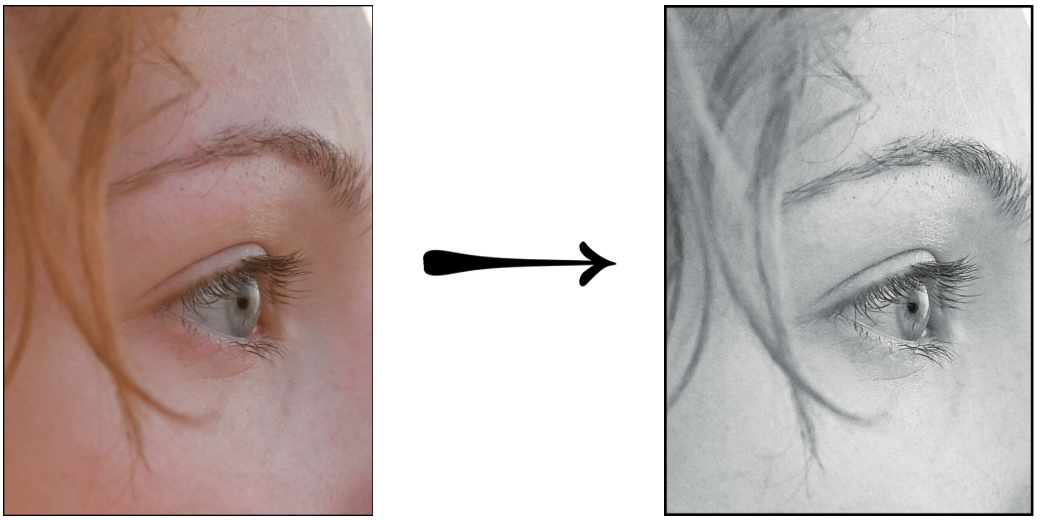


*Source: ©Image of an eye via Pexels*



*Source: ©Dmitriy Ganin via Pexels*

*Source: ©Quinten de Graaf on Unsplash*

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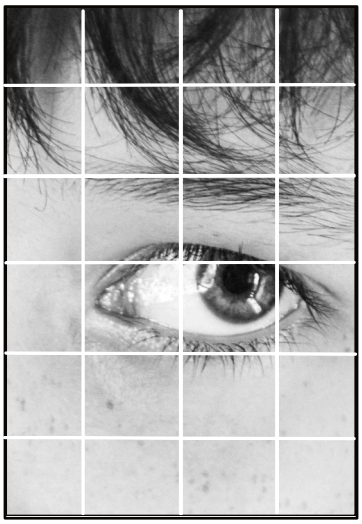

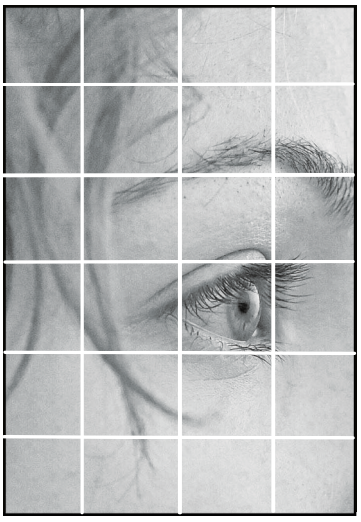

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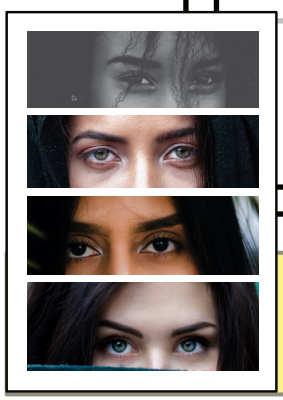

**Don’t forget to download for free all the references from this section at :** https://www.khouriamelia.com/links

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# Half faces

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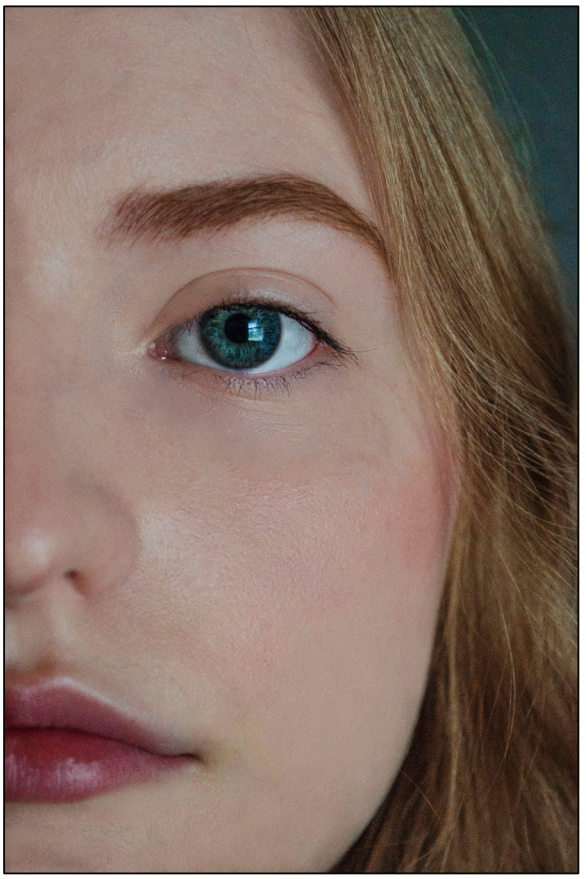

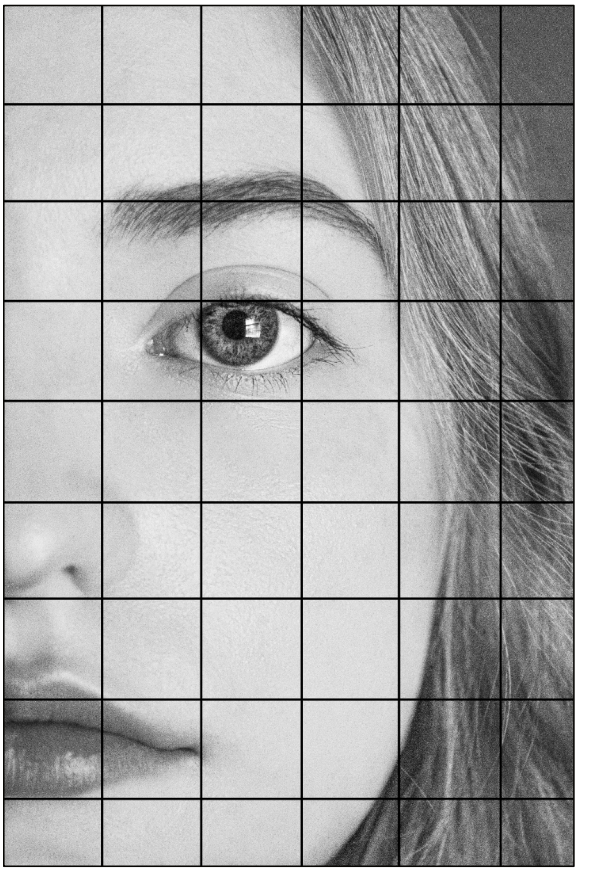

*Source: ©Chloe Amaya via Pexels*

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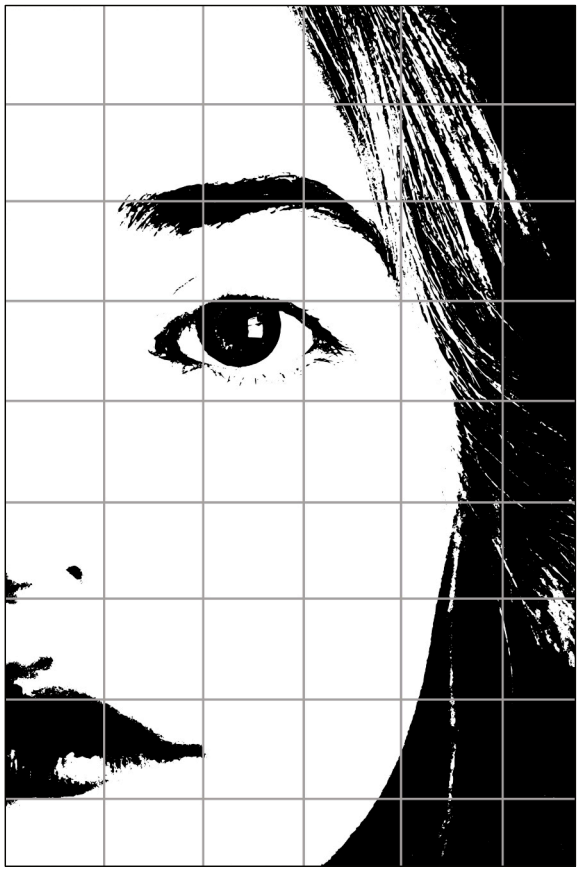

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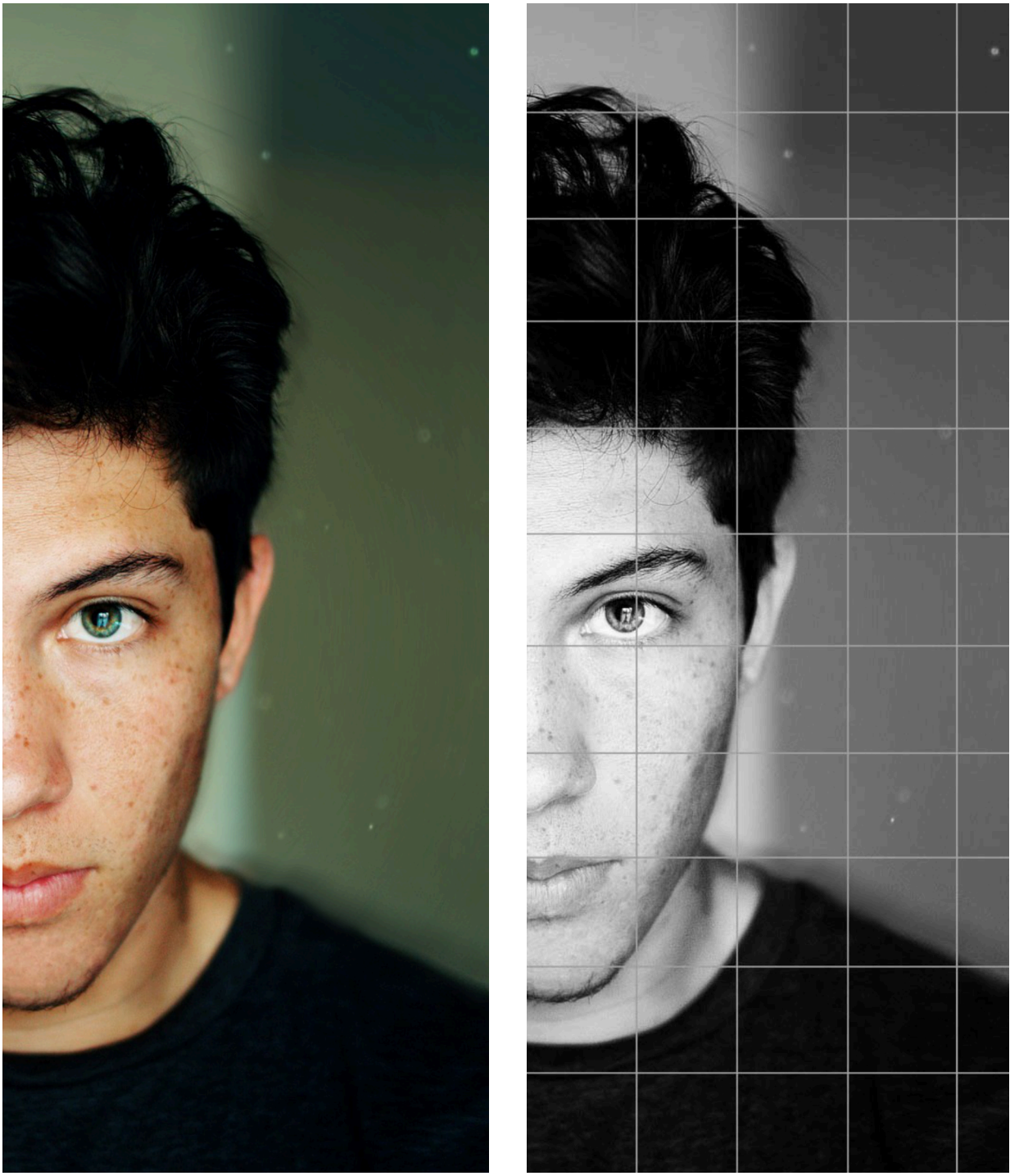

*Source: ©Image by Erik Lucatero from Pixabay*

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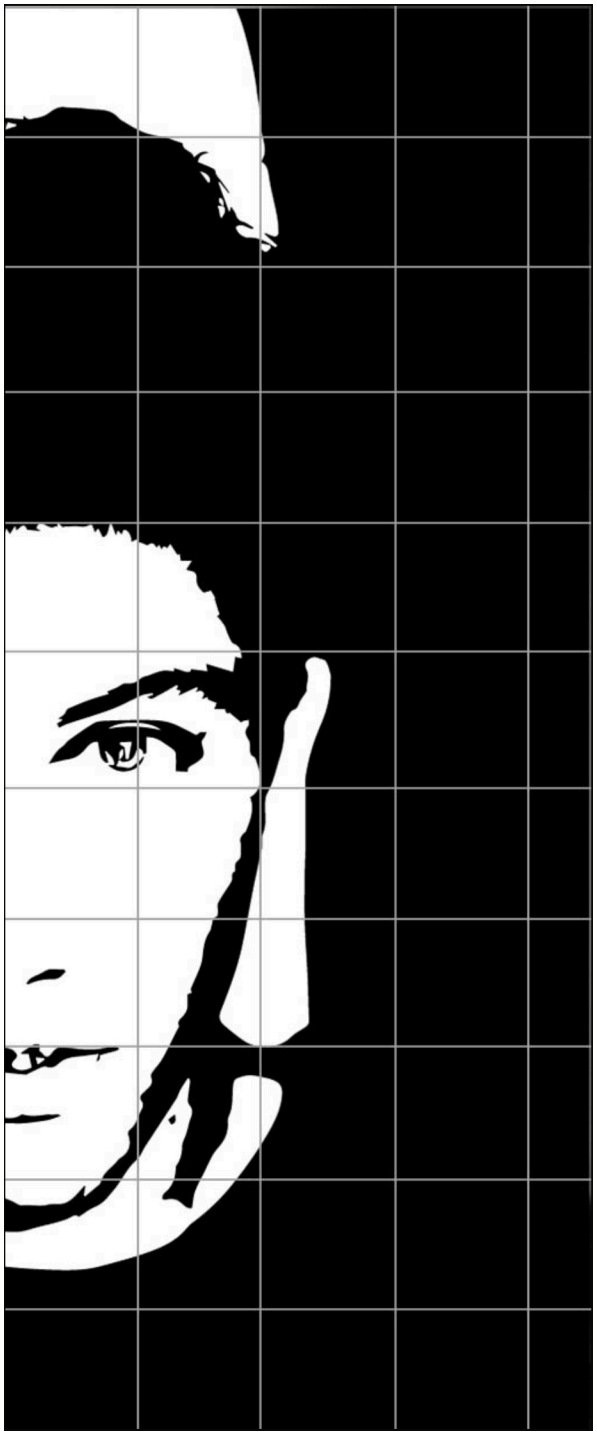

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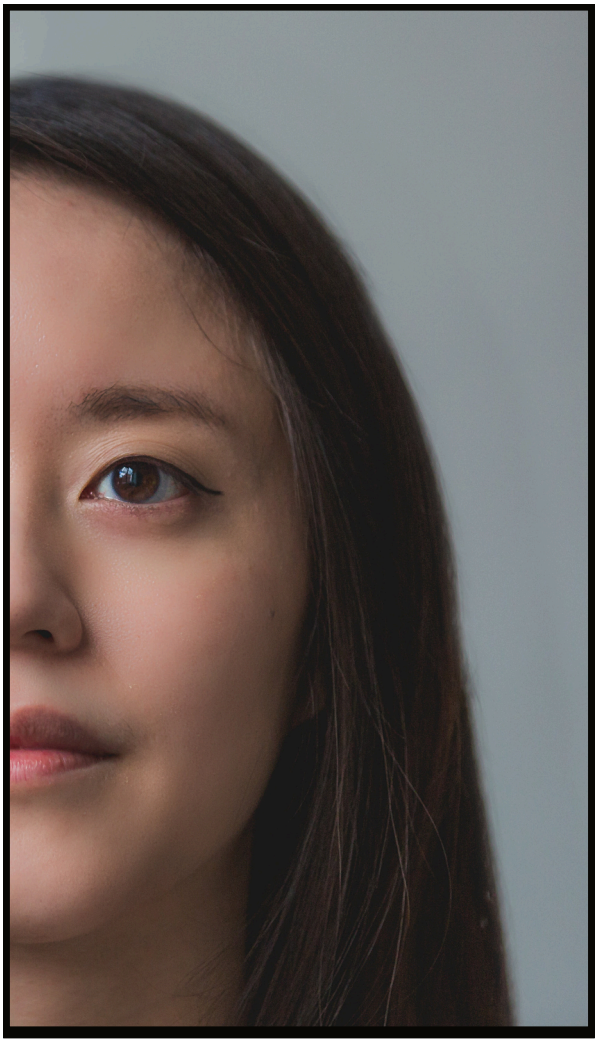

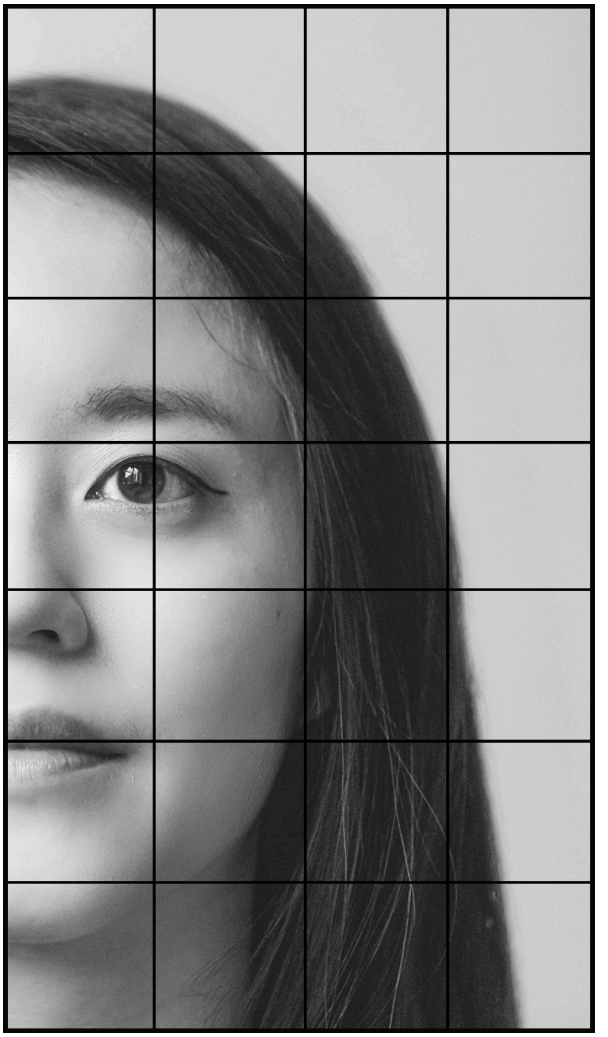

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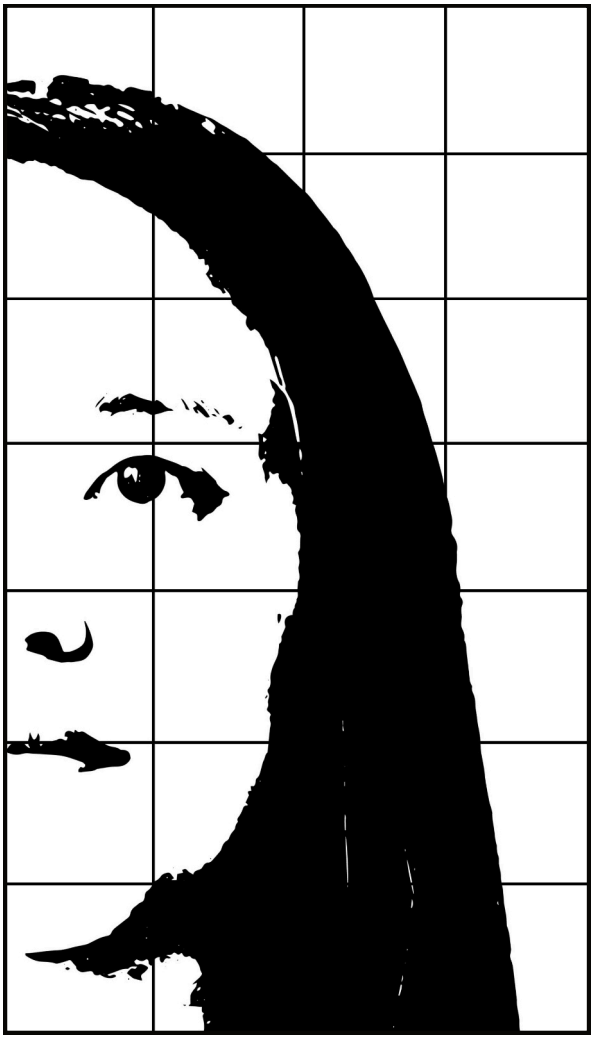

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# Duo faces

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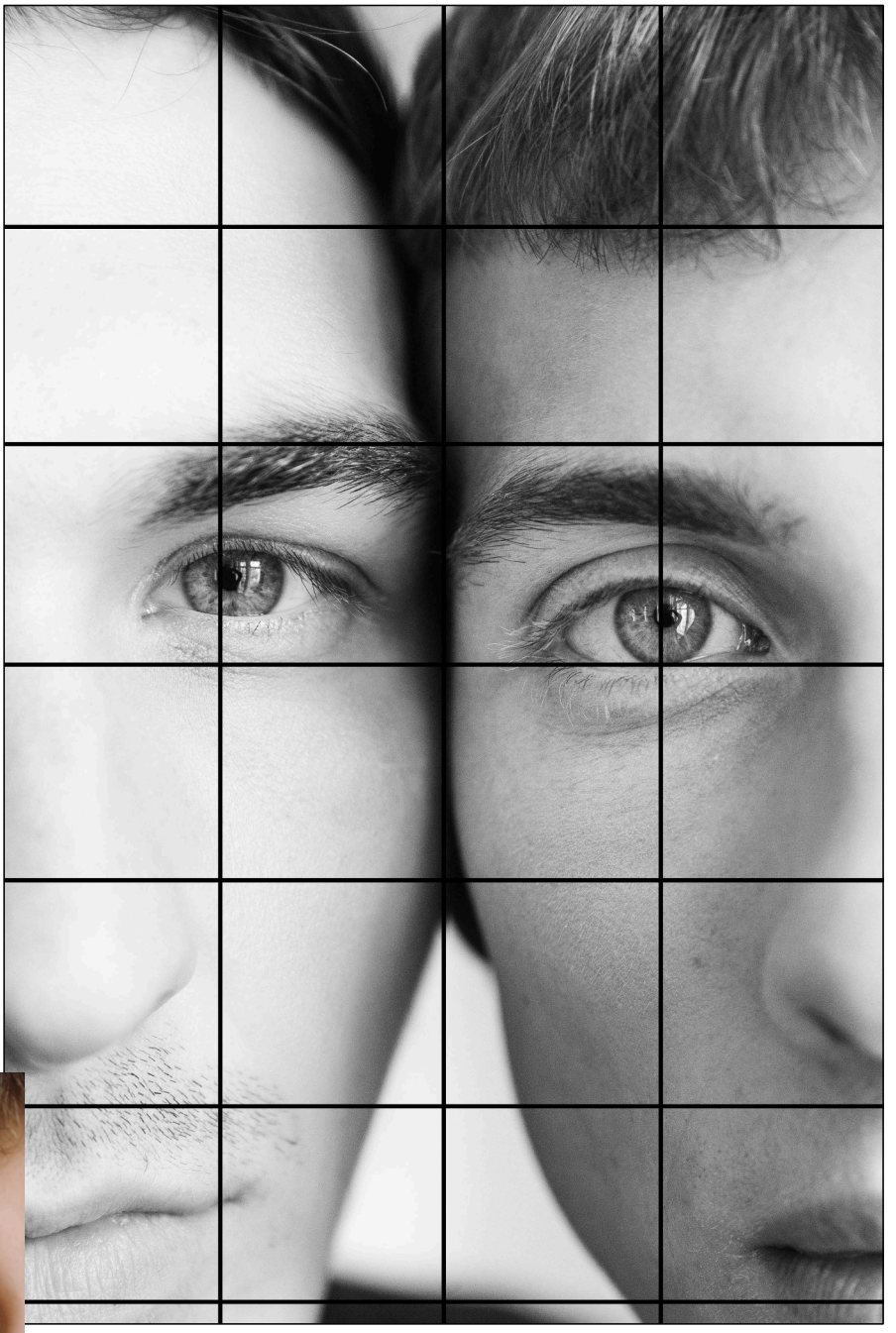

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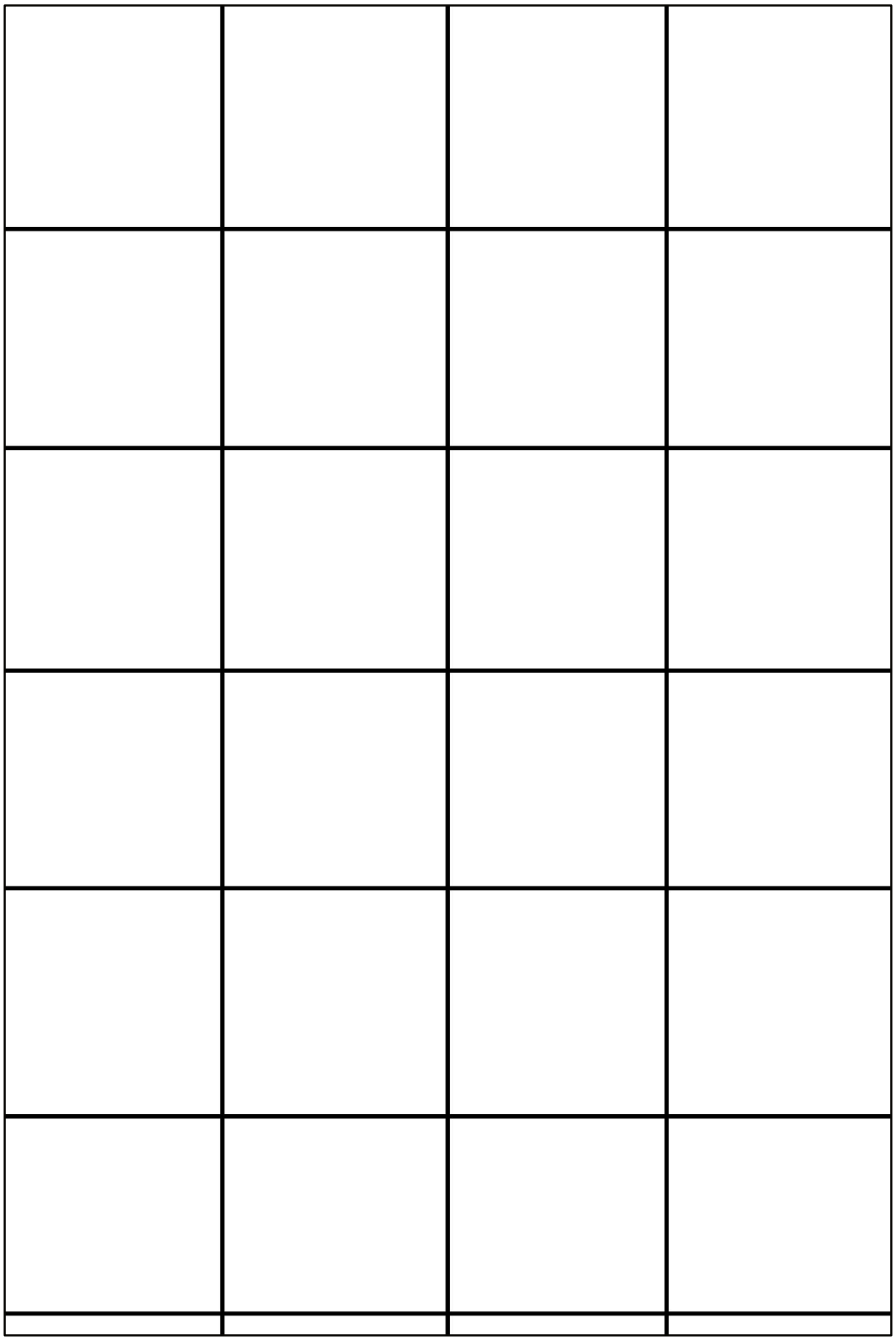

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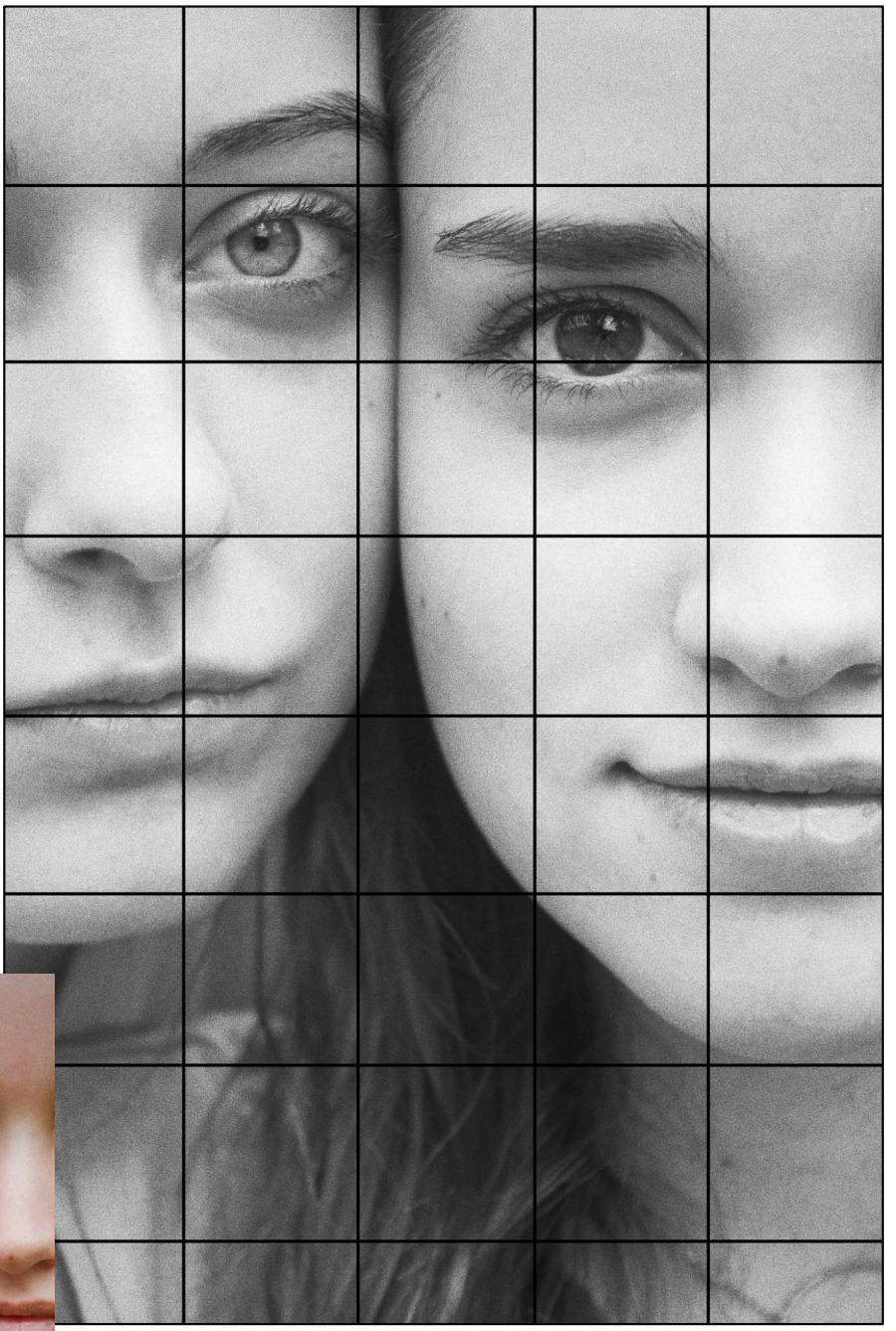

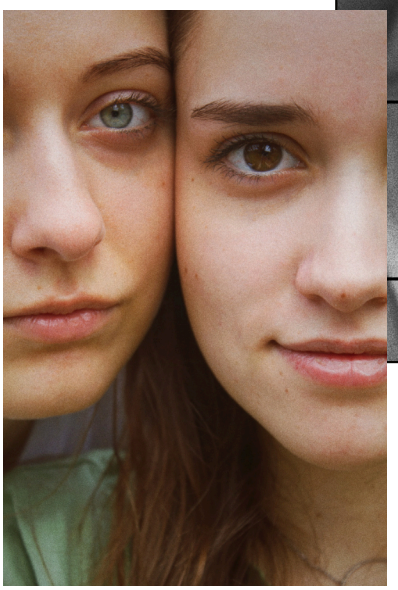

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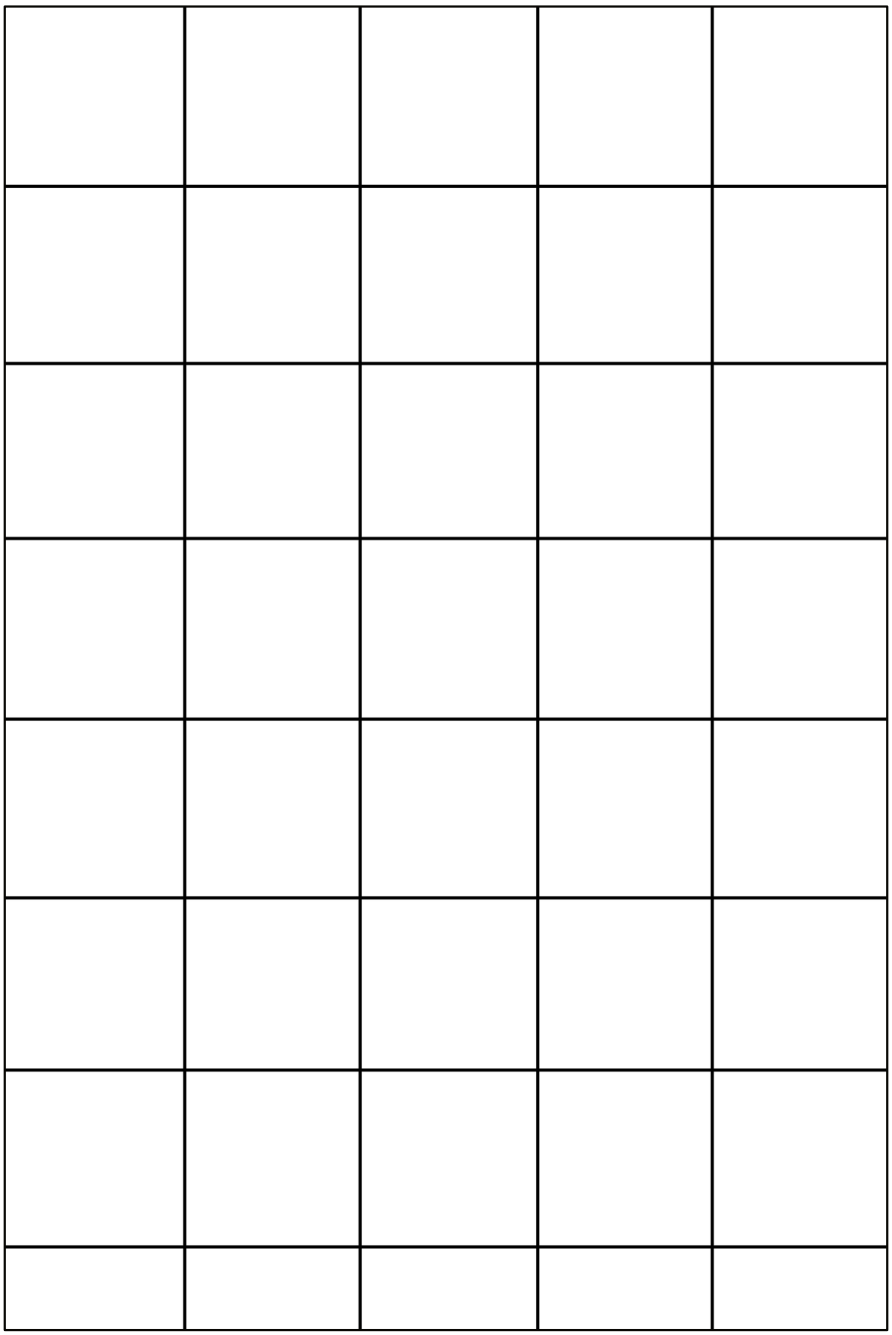

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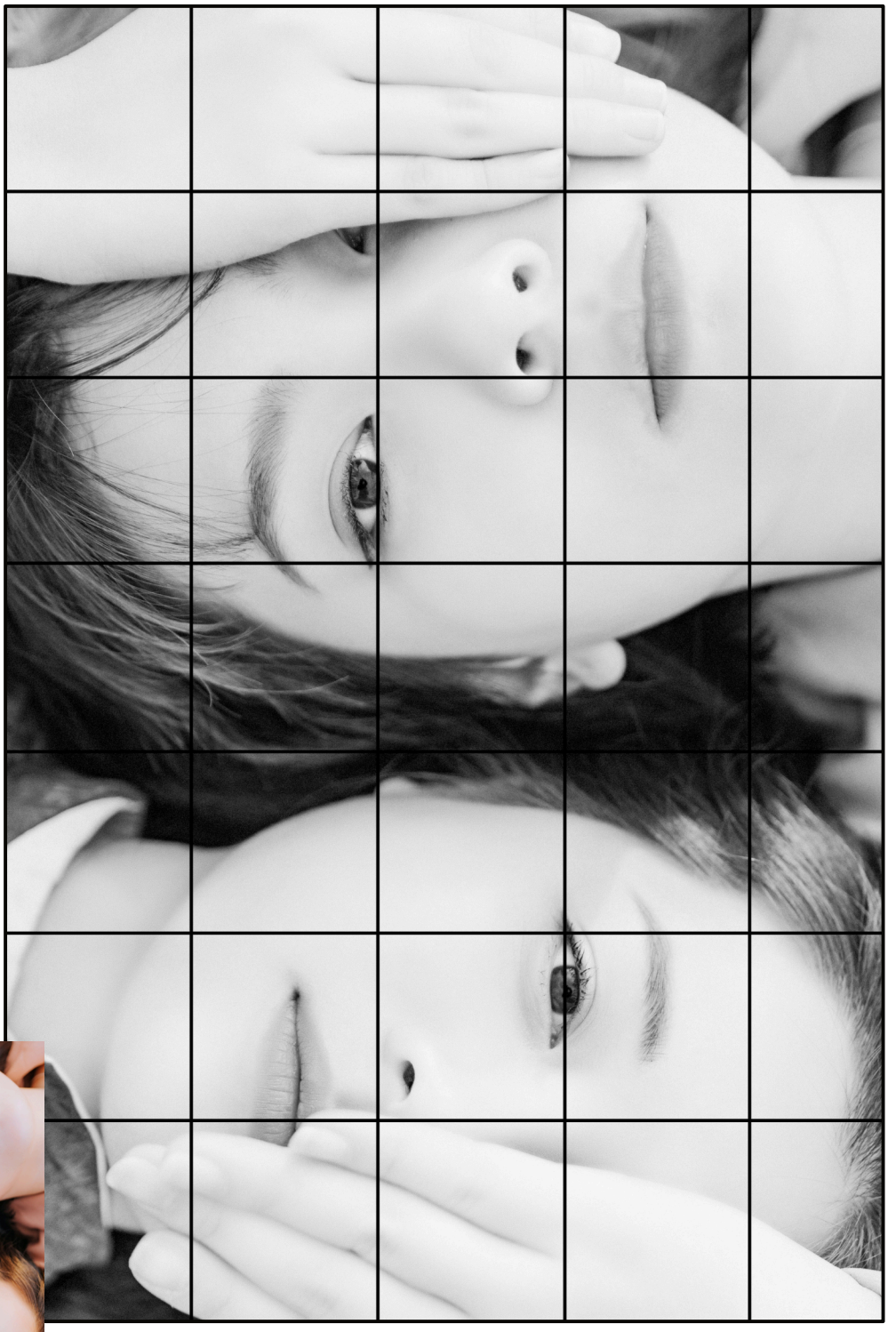

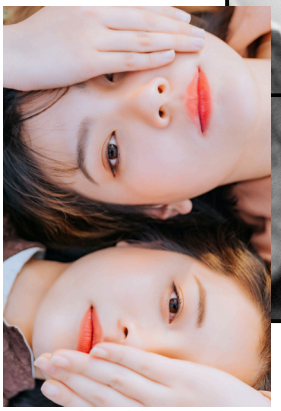

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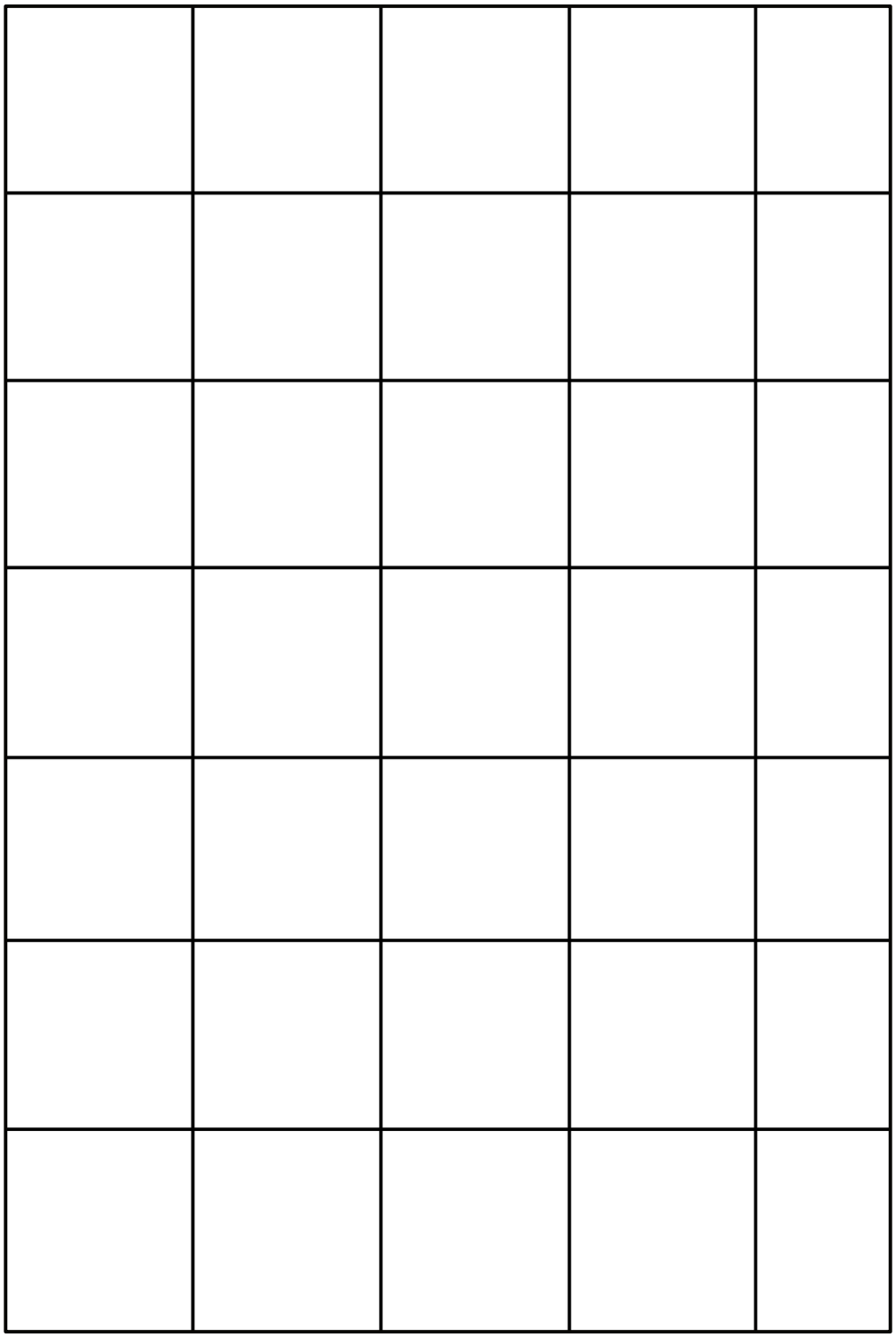

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# Hands

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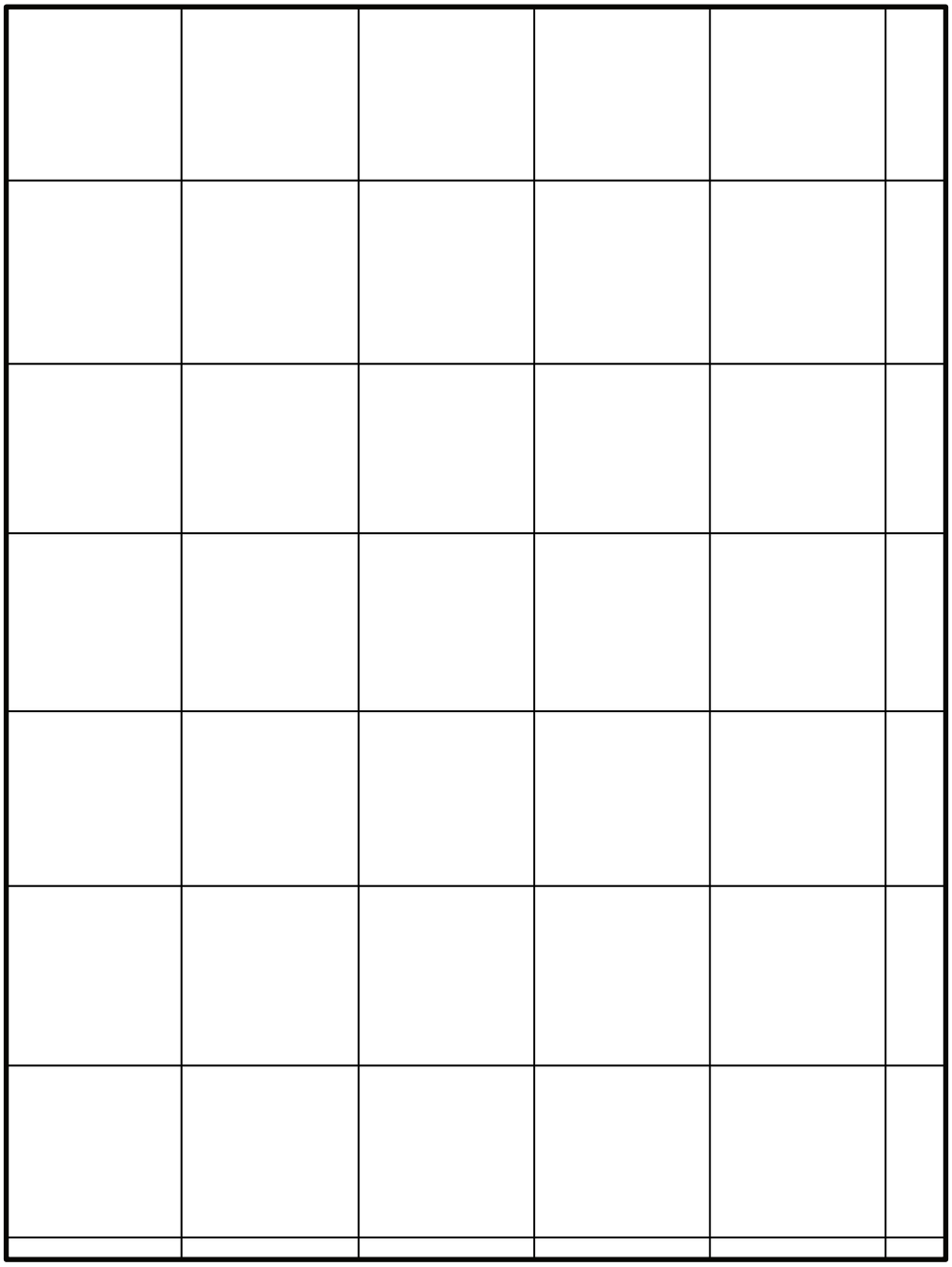

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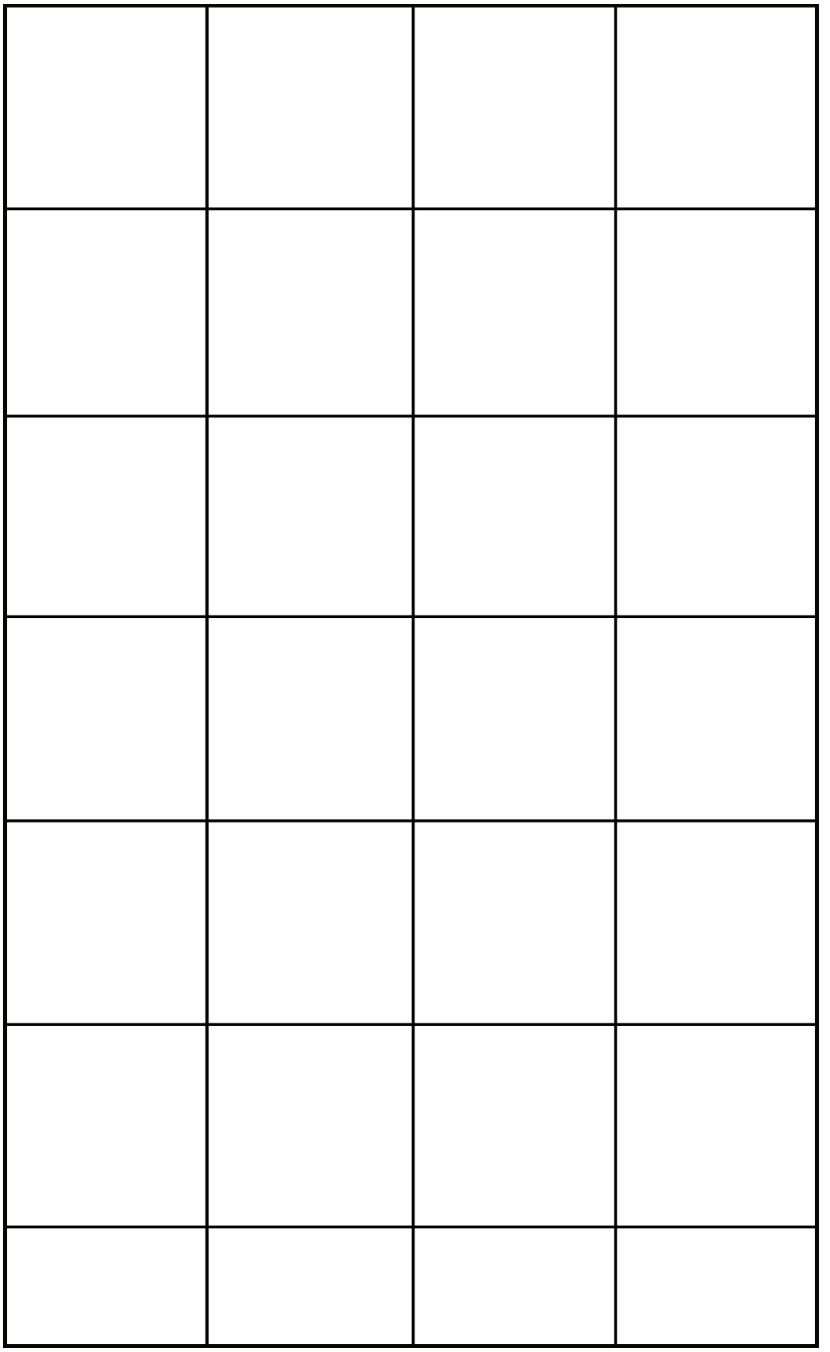

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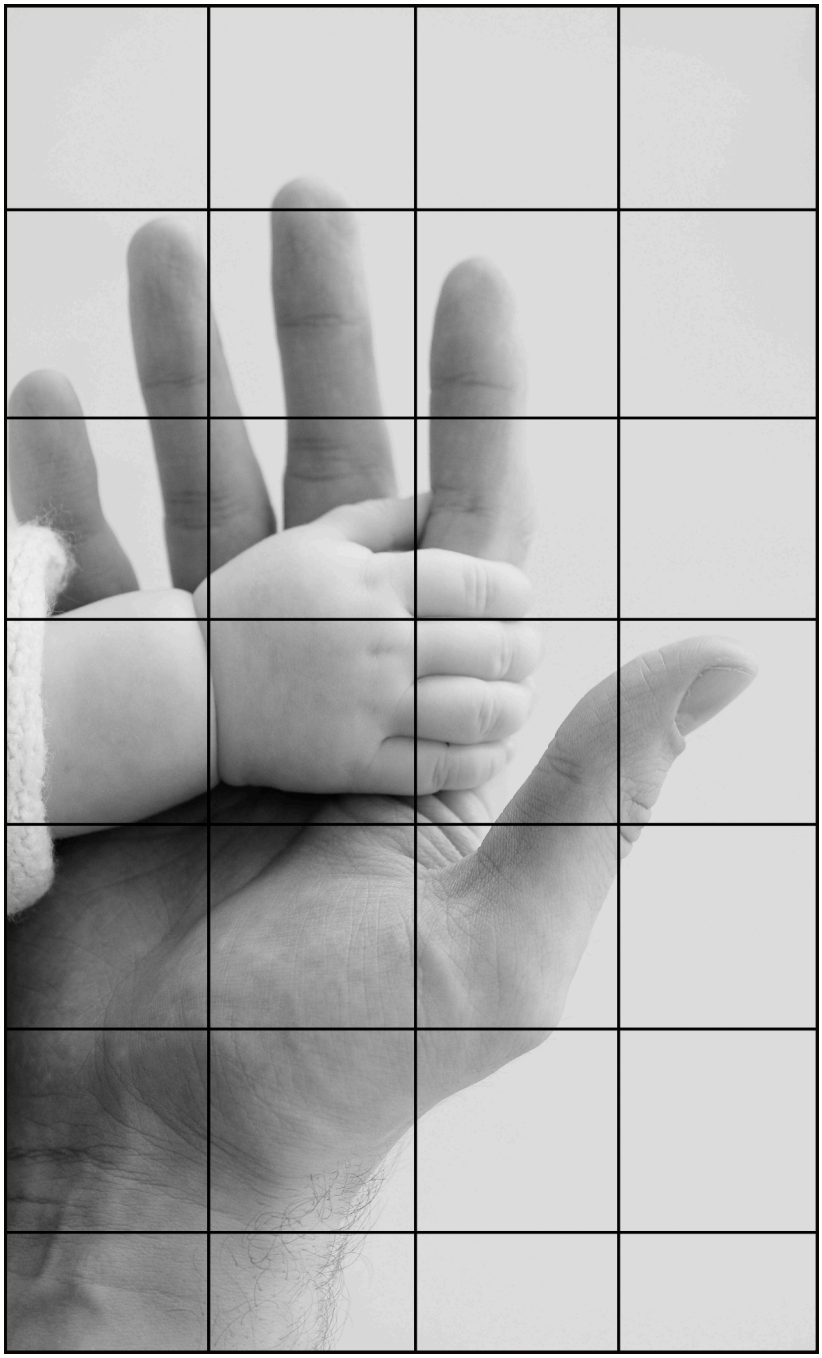

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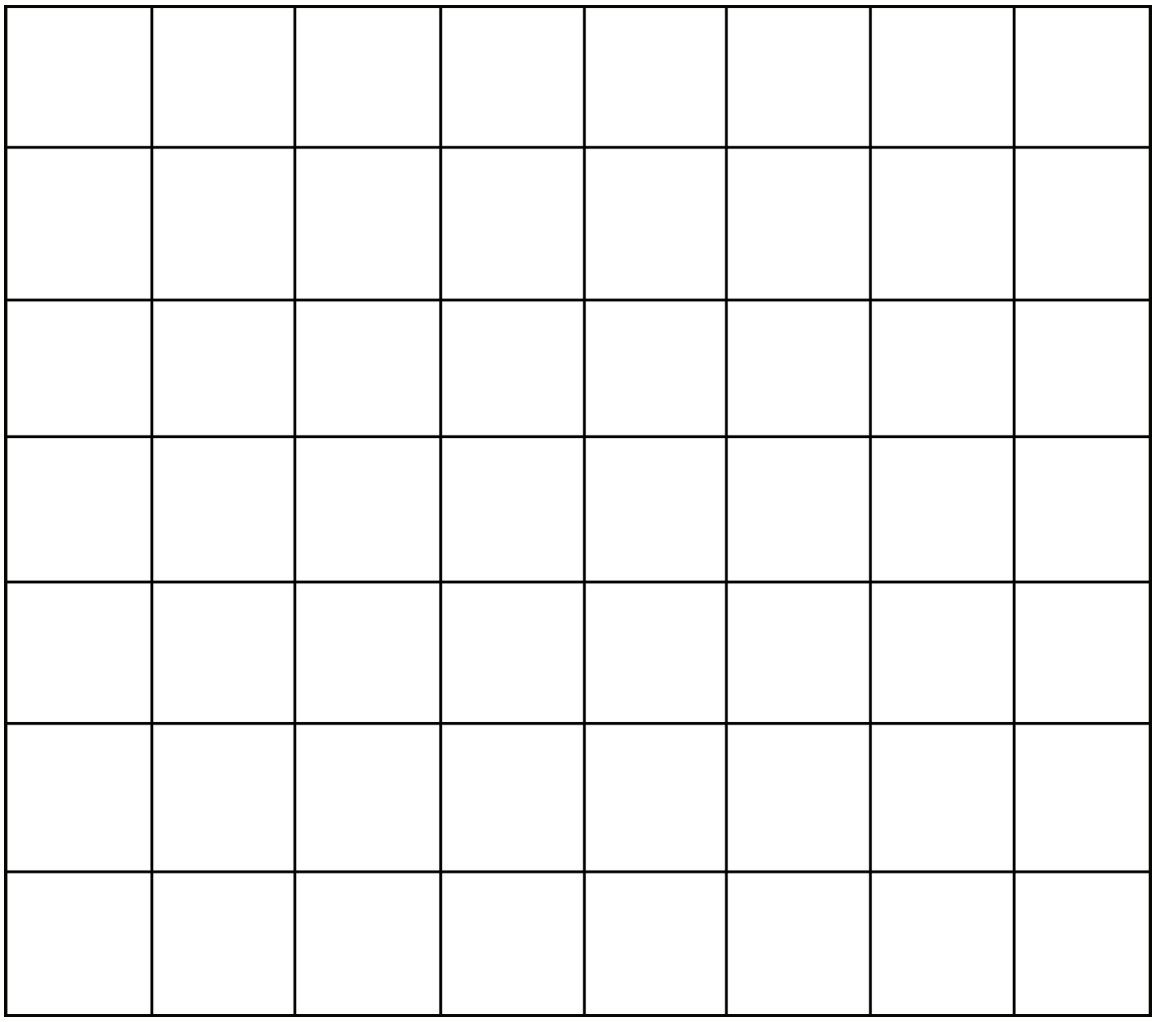

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# Animals and nature

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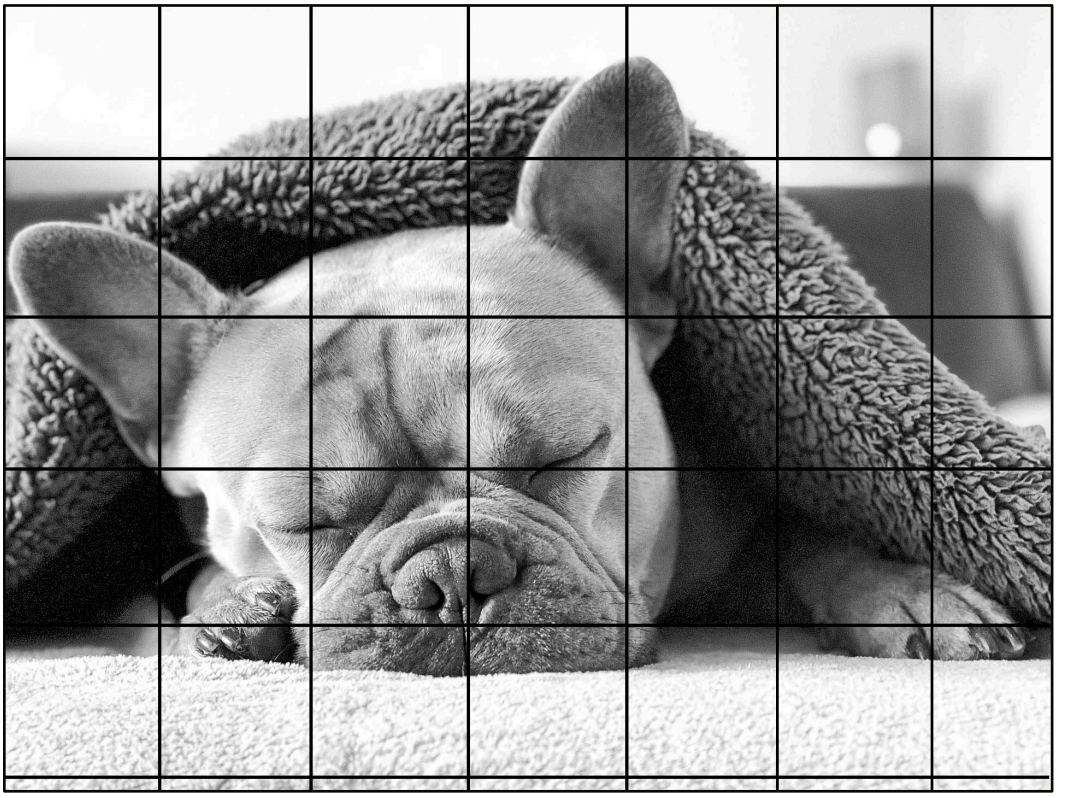

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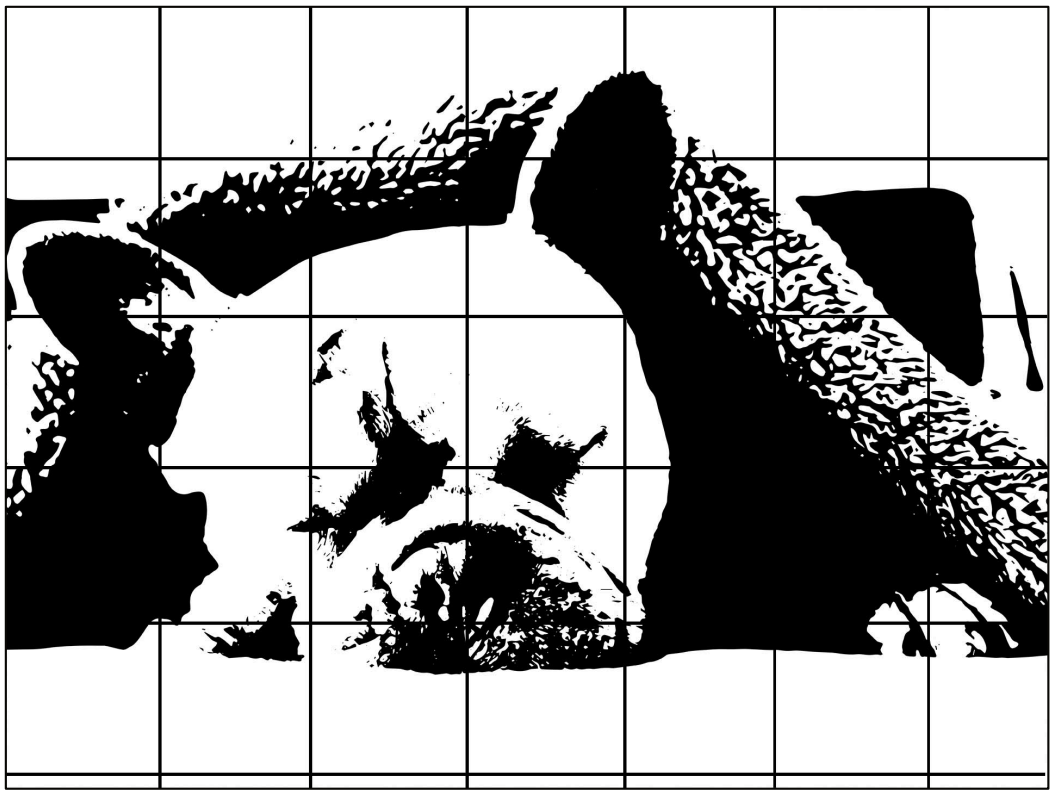

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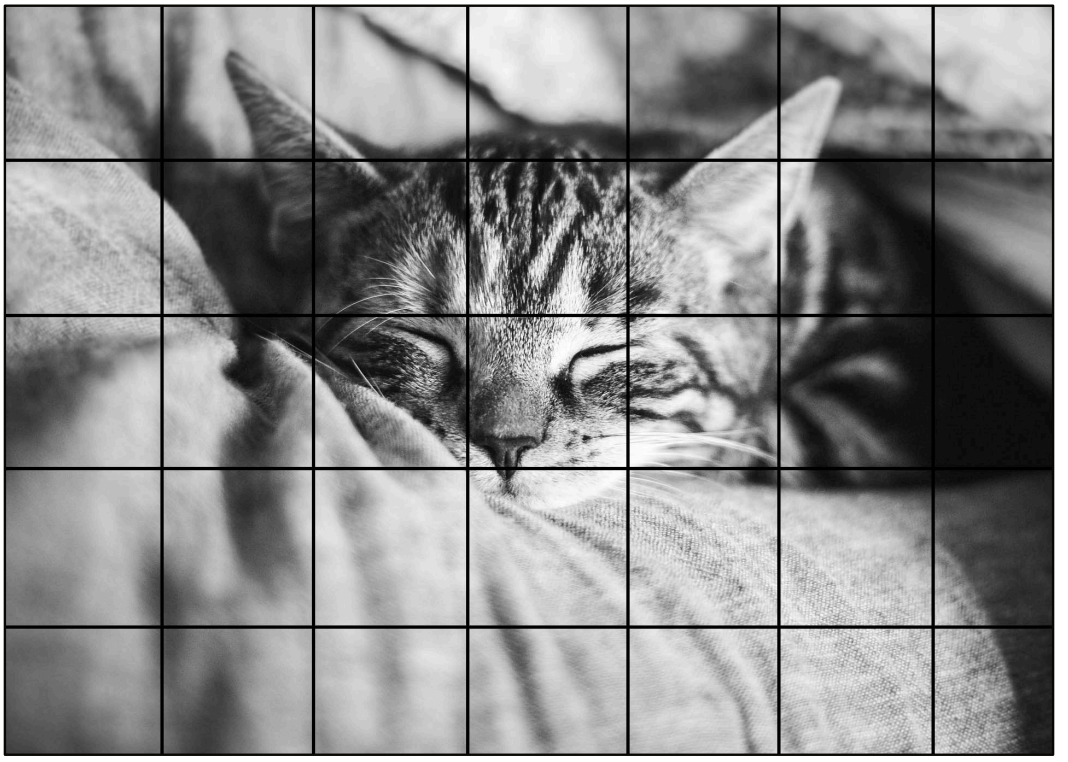

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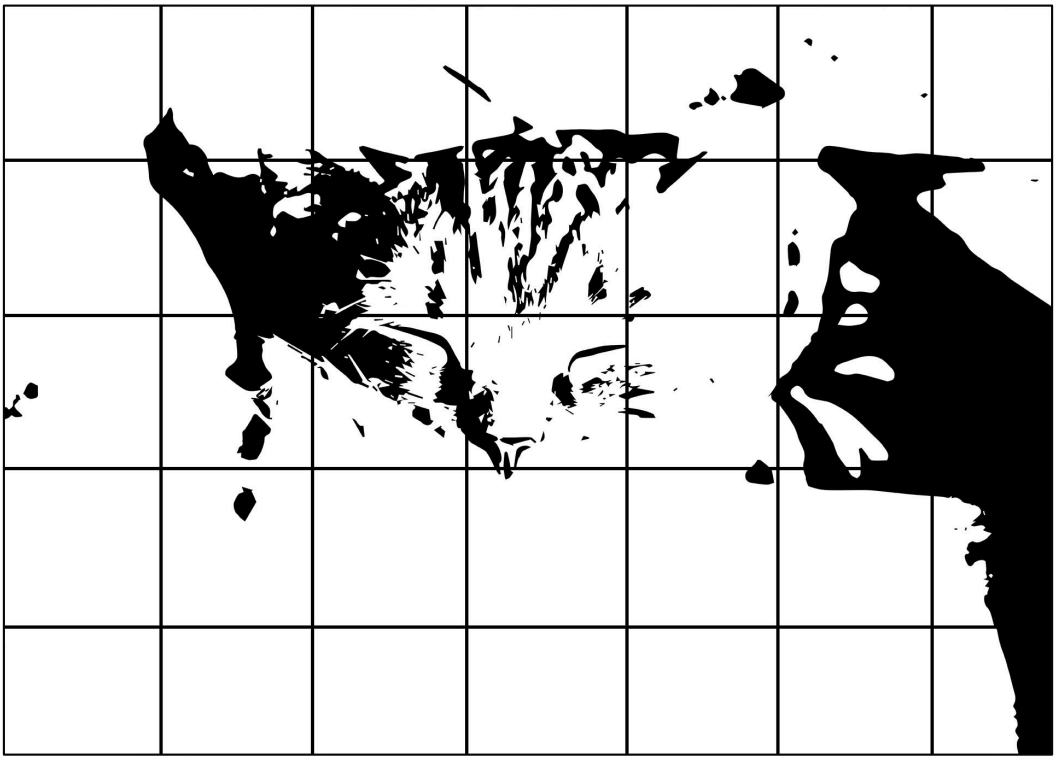

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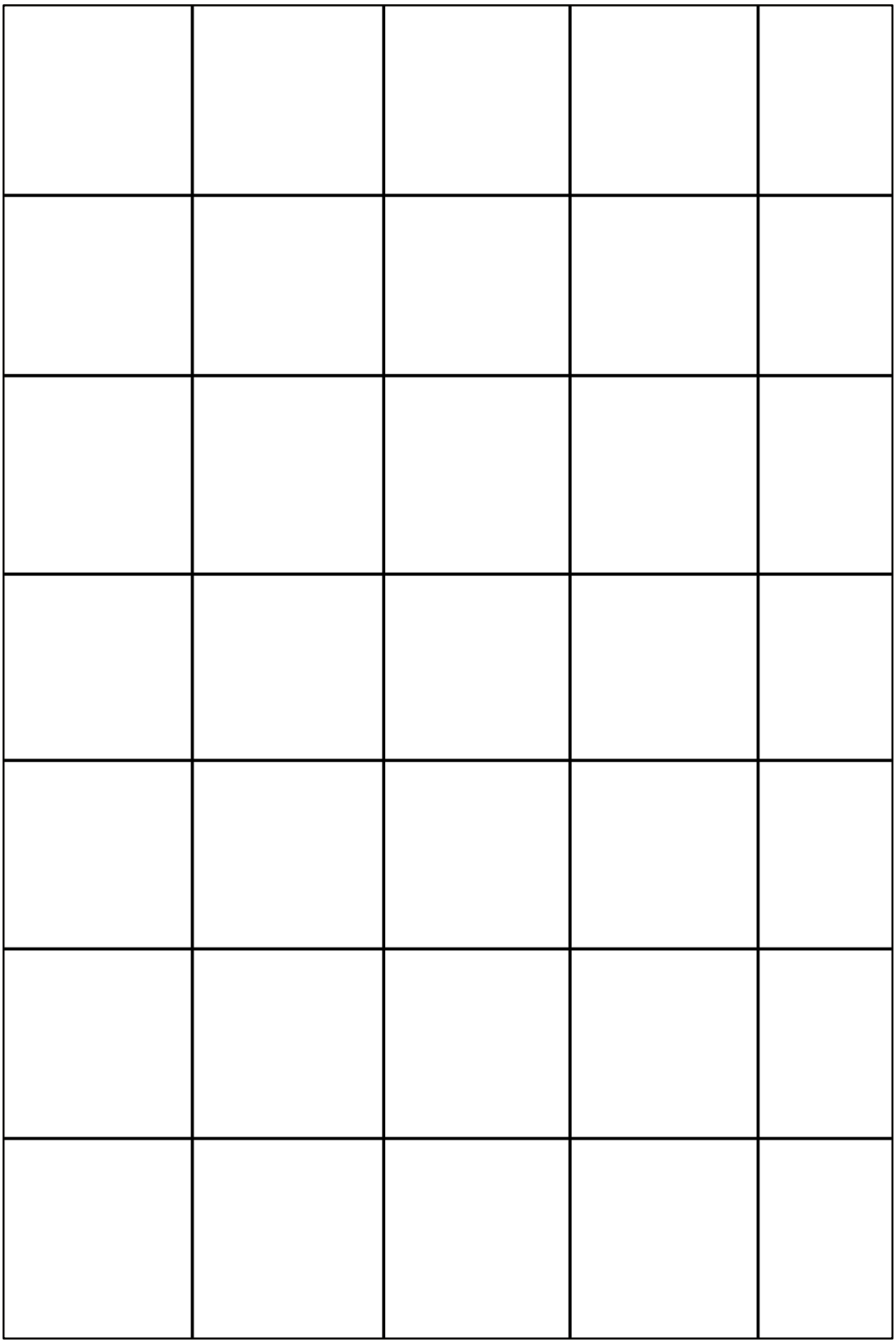

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# Problem Solver

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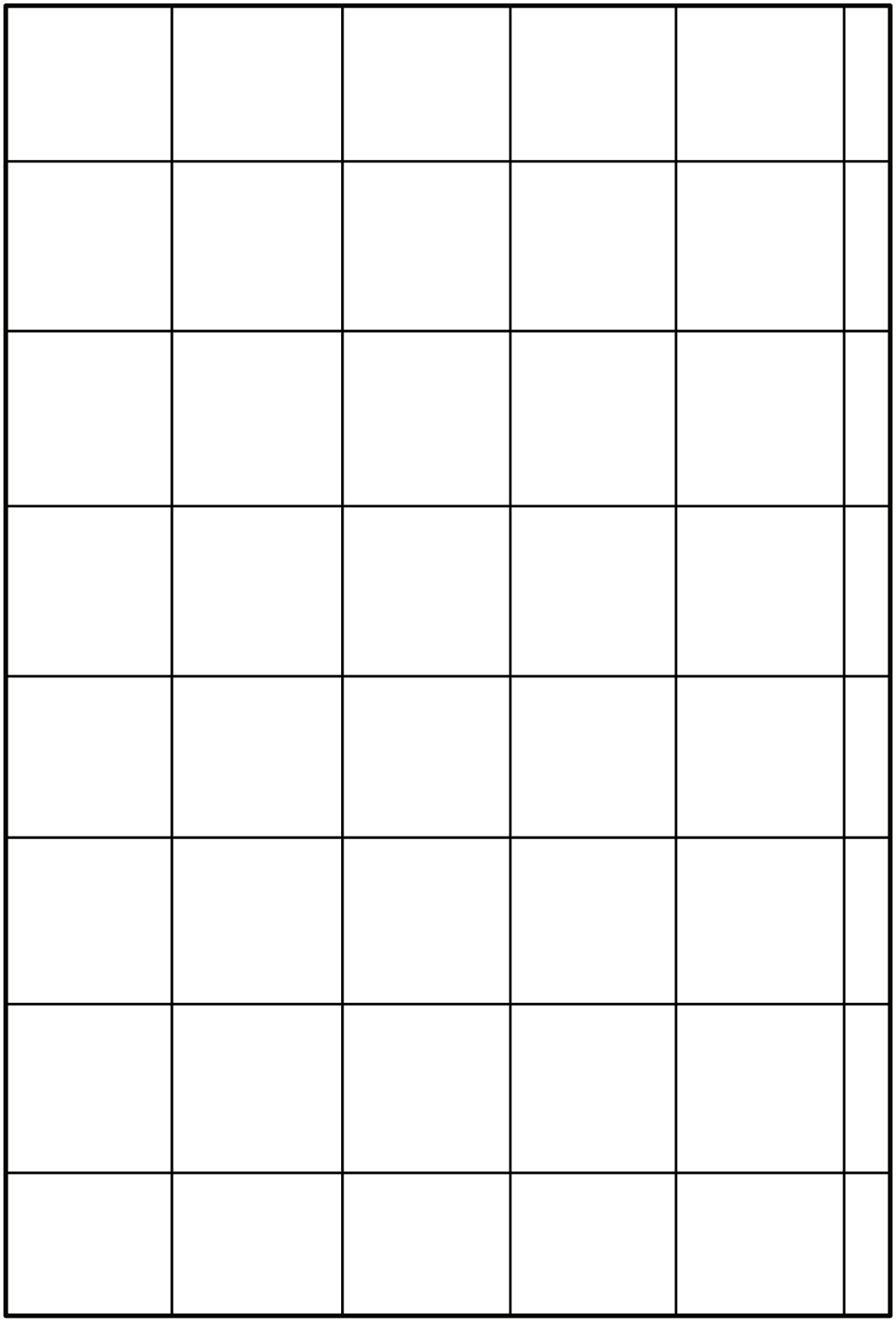

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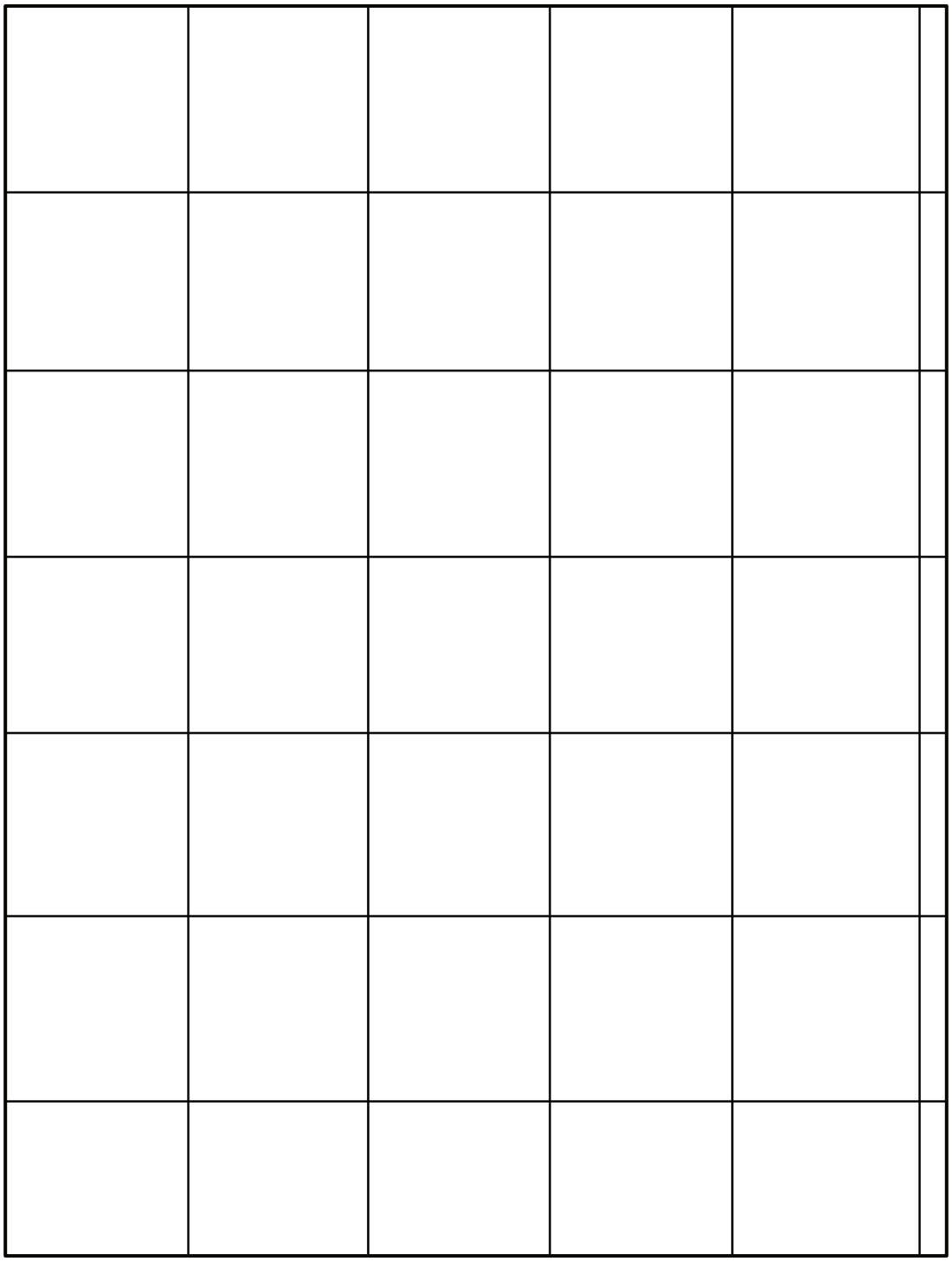

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# Trouble drawing two open eyes

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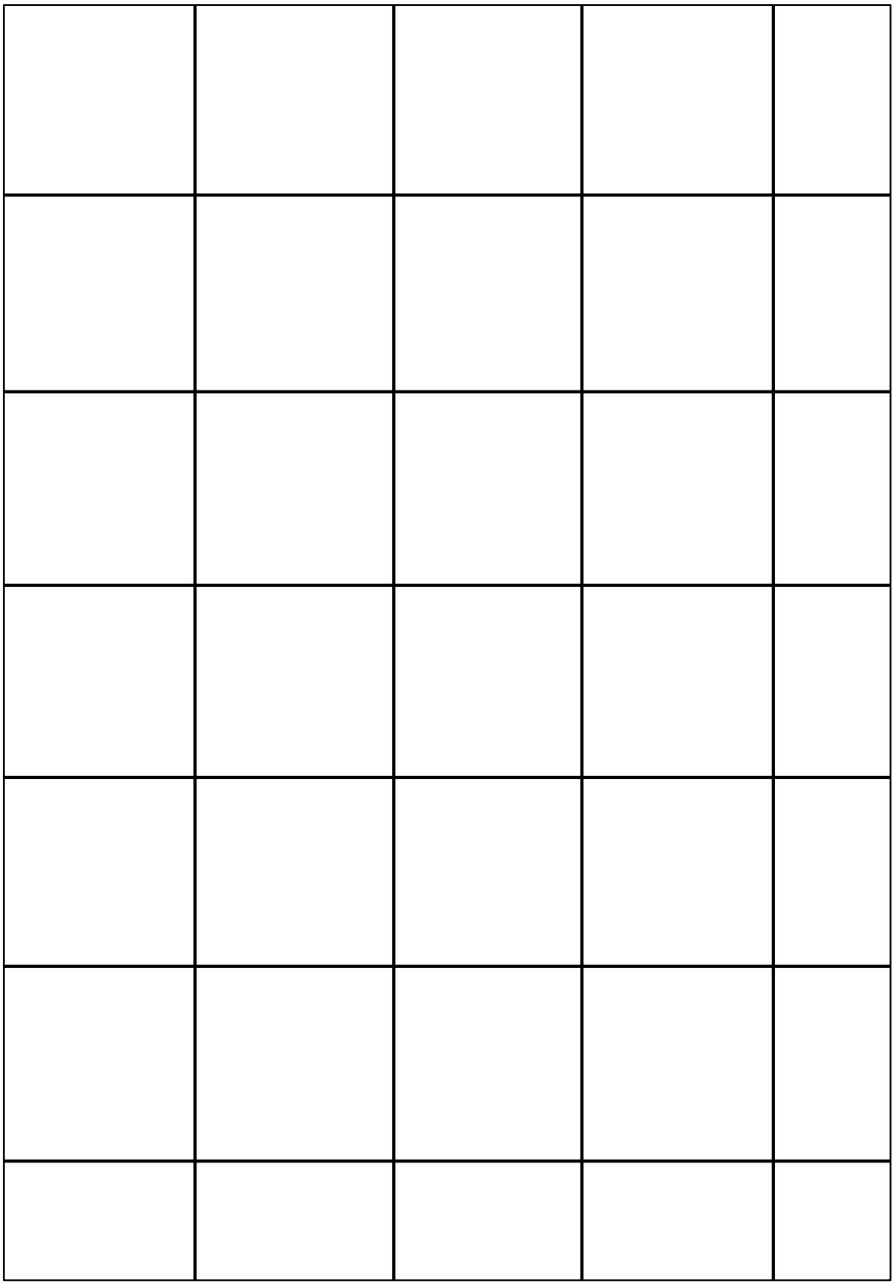

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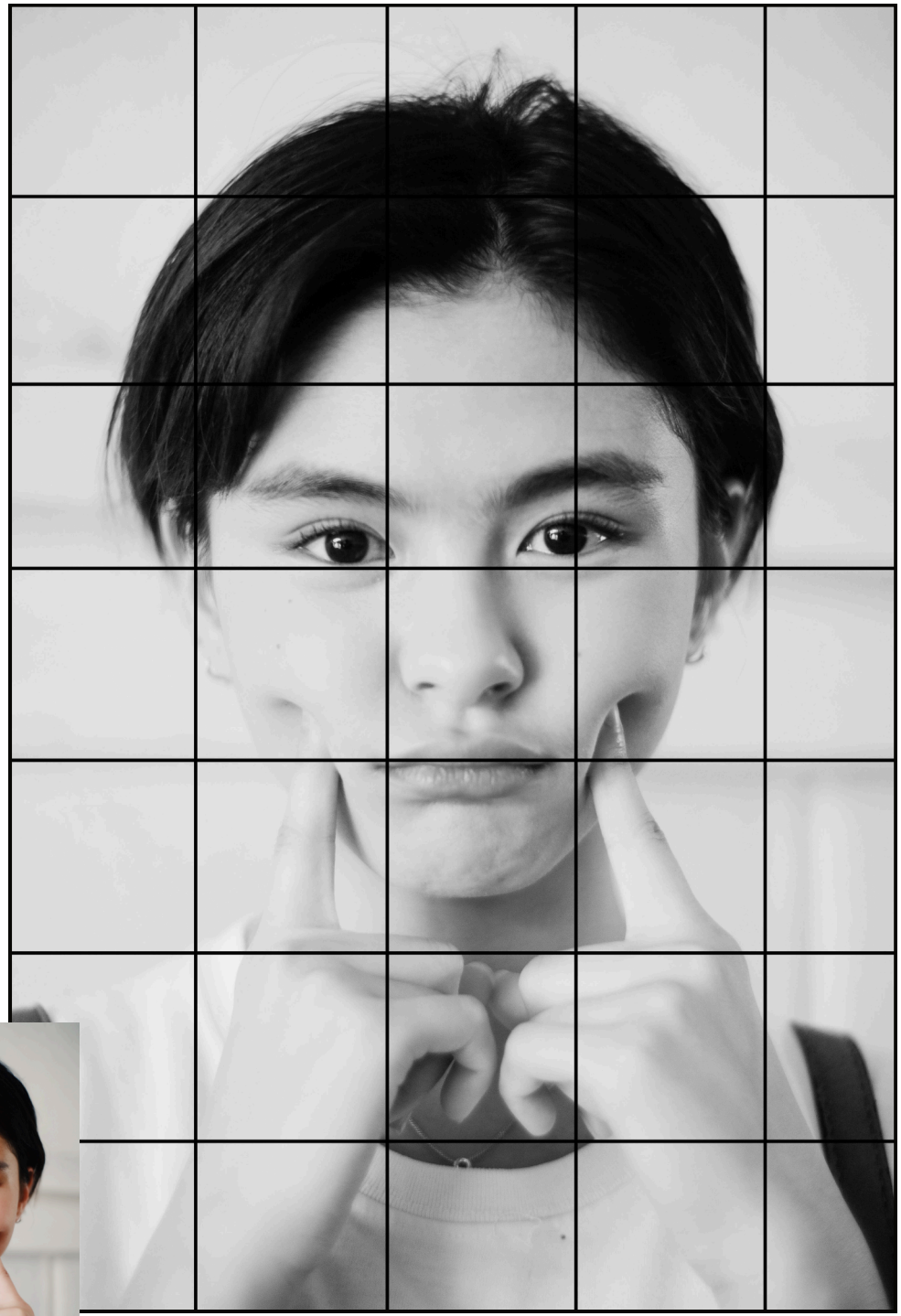
## Trouble drawing even cheeks



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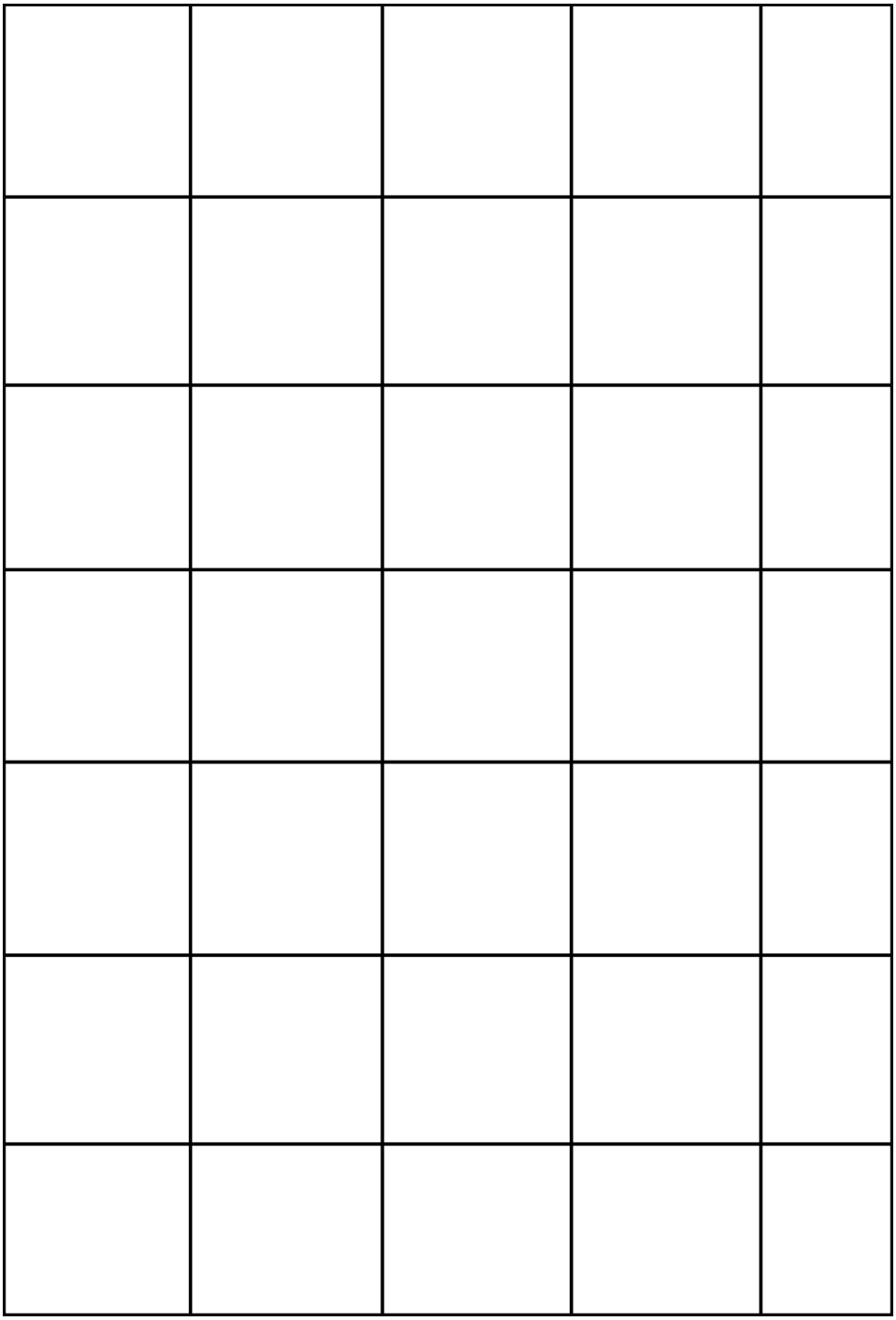

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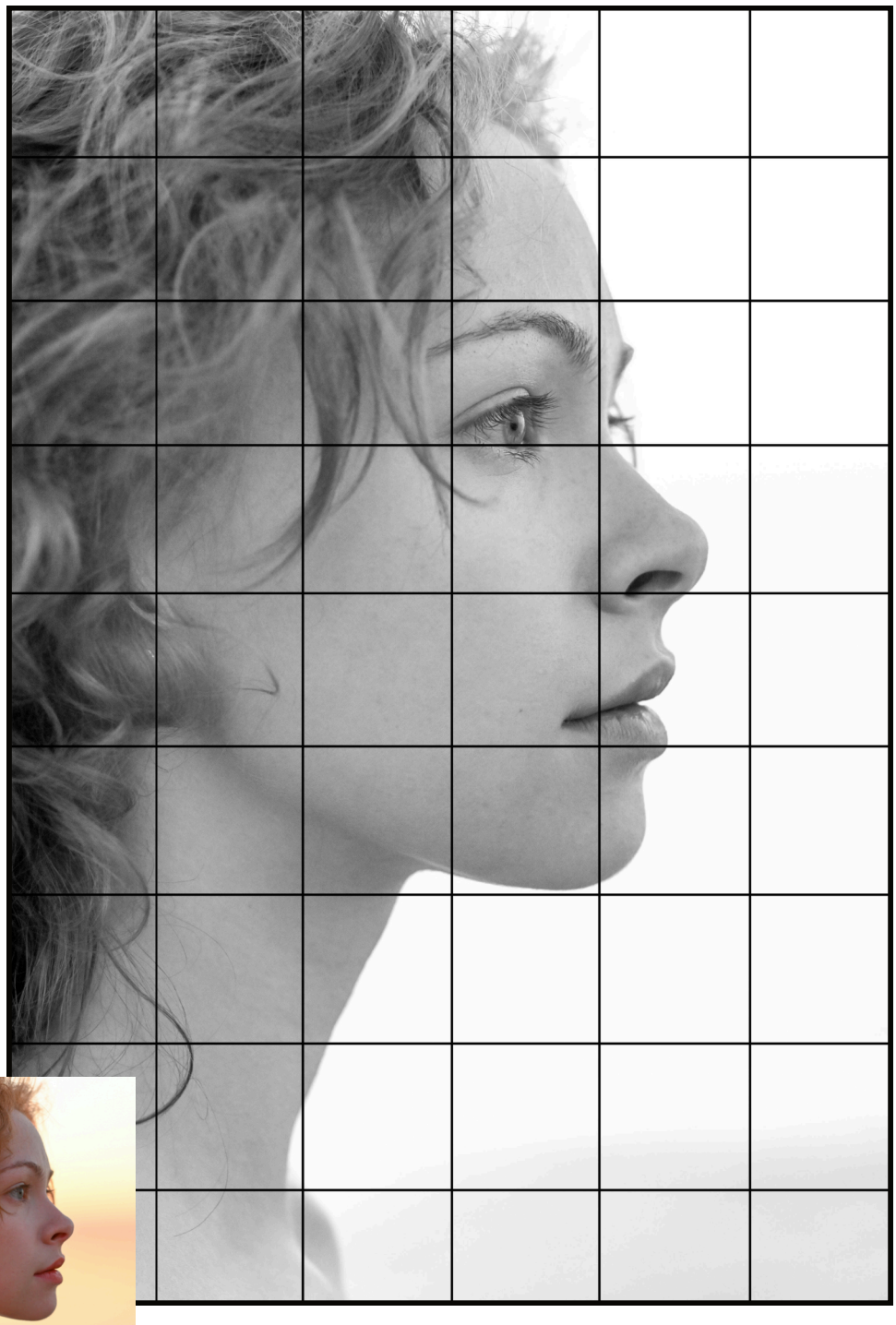

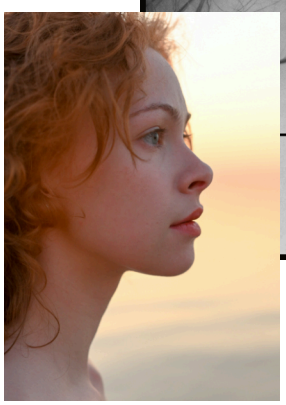

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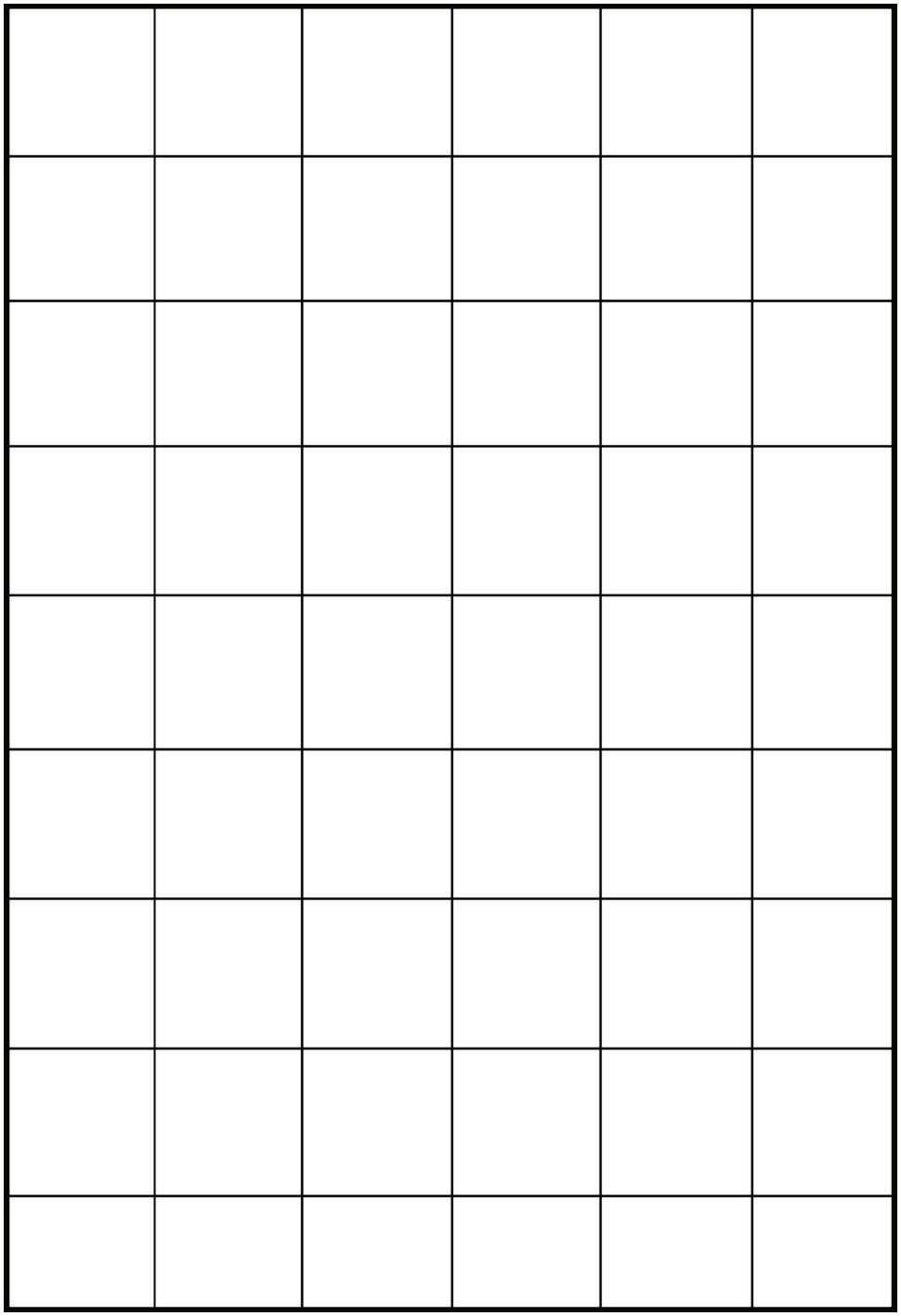

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# Practice How to Blend & Master Shadows

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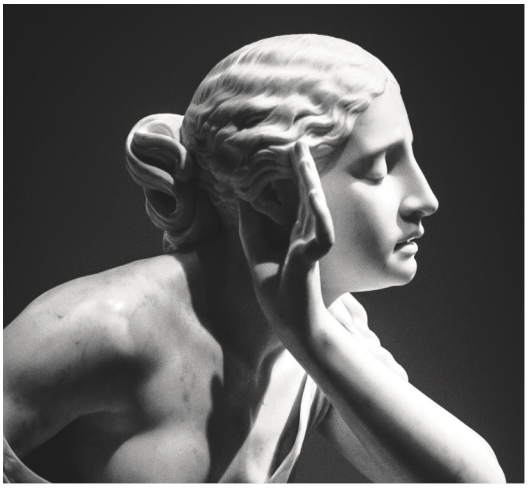

*Source: ©Image by Zack Jarosz via Pexel*

The best way to become proficient at blending is, of course, through practicing drawing various subjects with shadows and lights. One of the best things to practice this technique is by drawing statues.

**Don’t forget that you can download all these references of this section for free at:**
https://www.khouriamelia.com/links

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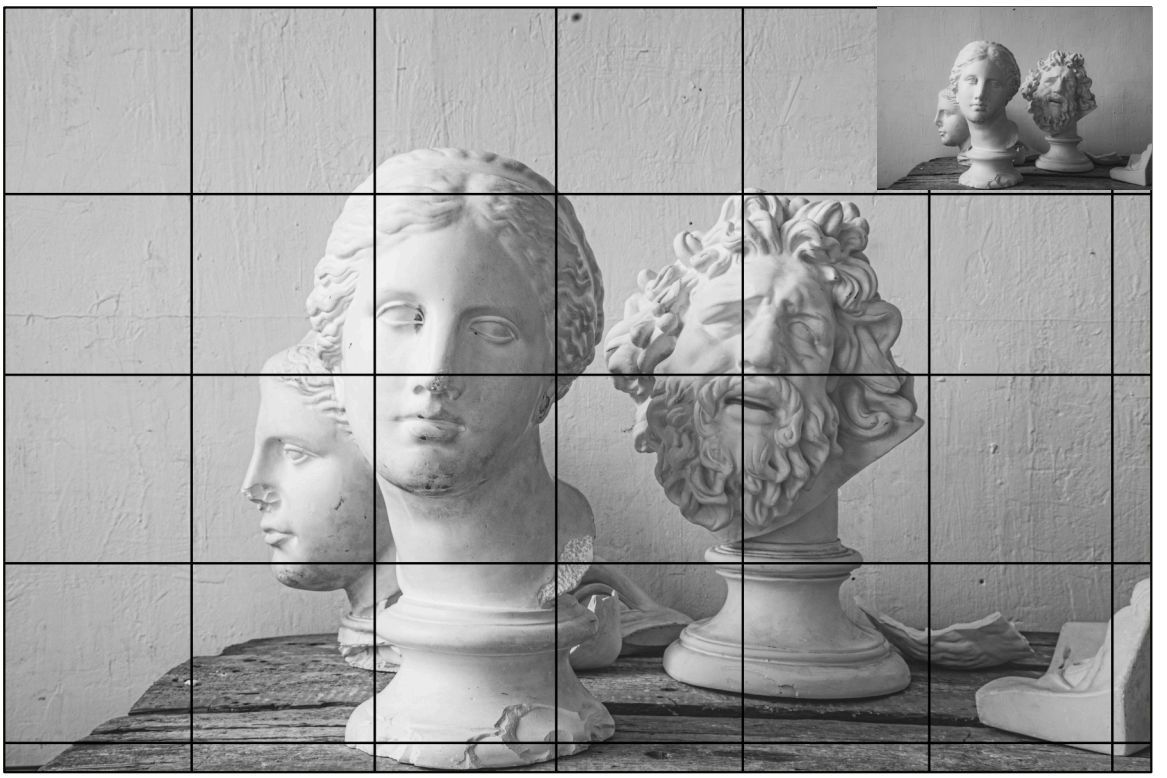

*Source: ©Image by Roman Odintsov via Pexel*

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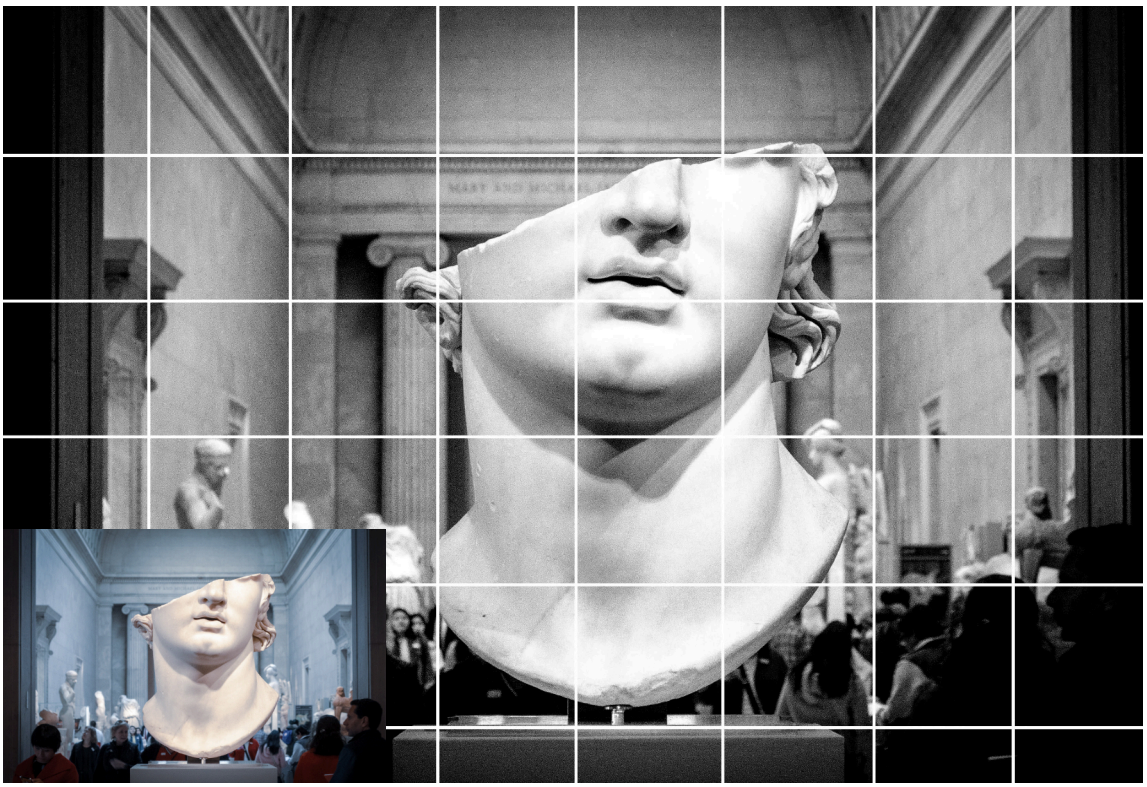

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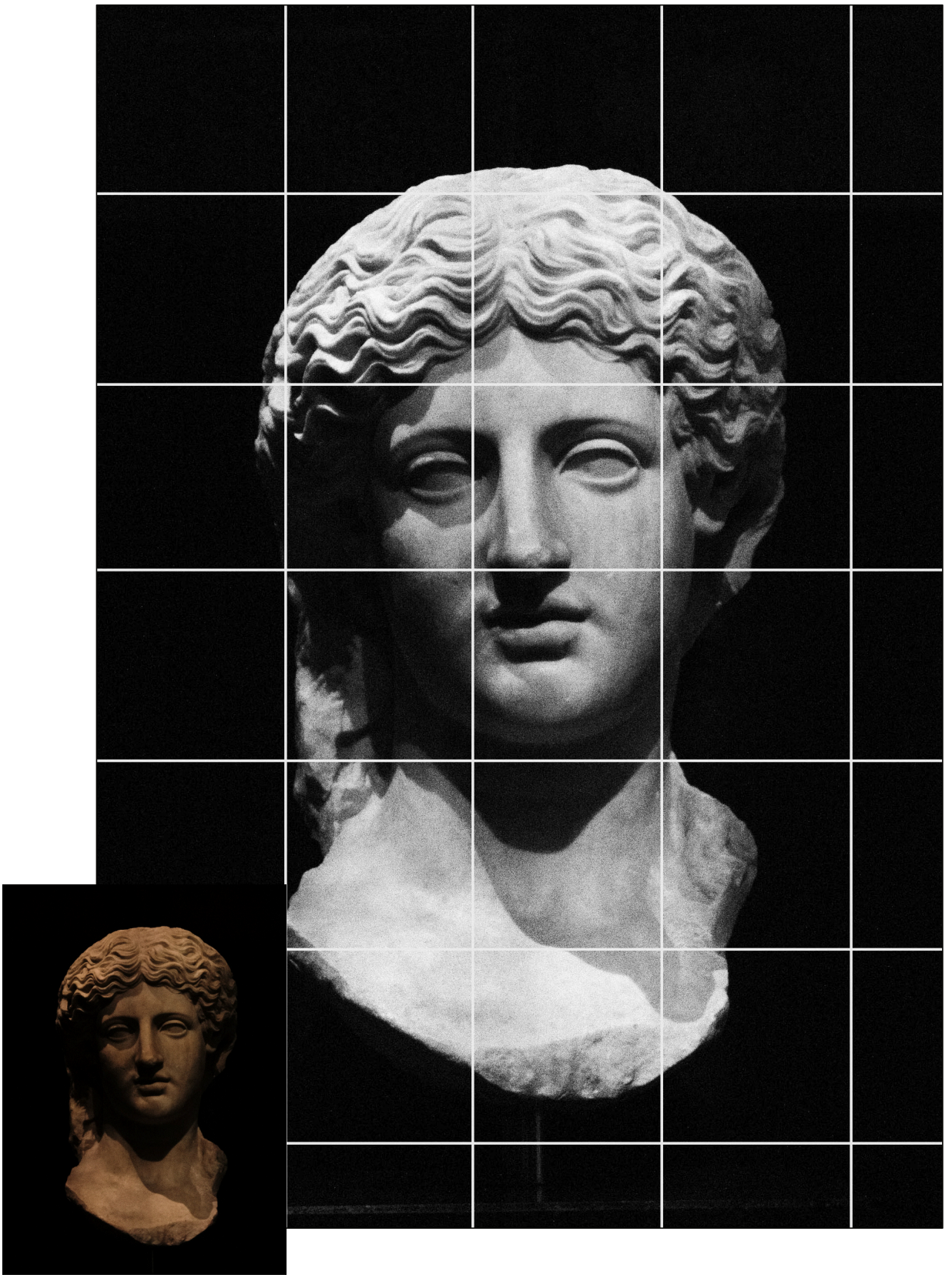

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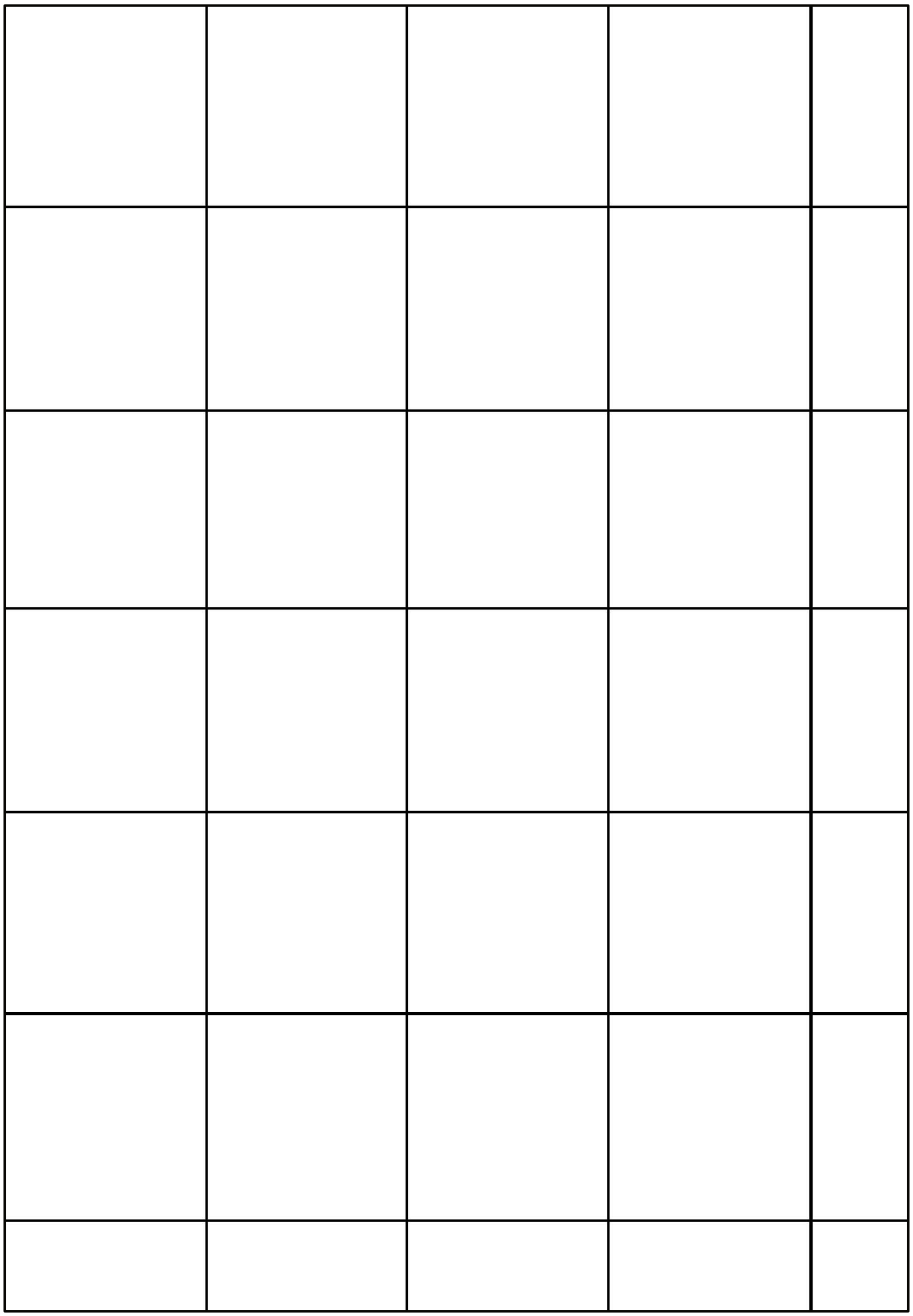

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# ADDITIONAL ADVICE

mastermo...@gmail.com 30 Jun 16

# BONUS SECTION !

**20 ways to always have drawing ideas**

**How to find your art style?**

**How to fix your drawings & make them look cooler. (+Drawing ideas)**

**Focus on one thing and you will not fail**

**Sketchbook tricks to know**

**Overcome the need to use grid lines over time**

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# How to always have drawing ideas

*“The best way to have a good idea is to have a lot of ideas”*
***— Linus Pauling***

It can be very frustrating and annoying as a beginner not to have any drawing ideas, especially when we want to draw, but we have no idea "what" to draw.

We discussed this issue on Day 2. I mentioned art block and the beginner's self-art blockage syndrome.

The problem of "not having a drawing idea" is one of the top challenges you'll encounter, whether it's related to art block or the beginner's S.A.B. Syndrome. This is why I want to help you further by sharing tricks and knowledge, summarizing some of the topics we covered in previous chapters.

Furthermore, I'd like to provide you with additional tricks and drawing prompts so that you'll always have a source of drawing ideas for the future.

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# 20 ways to always have drawing ideas

Here are 20 ways to get drawing ideas for your next project. Read them all and simply choose the ones you like the best. You can even use this chapter as a reference whenever you lack new drawing ideas.

### 1)- Your Drawing List

Remember the list I had you write on Day 2, along with the 'breaking method'? This list will always come in handy when you are looking for drawing ideas. The items you've written down are things you love, and 'the breaking method' can provide you with numerous drawing ideas.

If you don't recall 'The Breaking Method' well enough, feel free to go back and reread that chapter. **(page 61)**

### 2)- Pinterest Is Your friend

Pinterest can be your best friend when you're searching for drawing ideas, as it offers thousands of drawings to choose from. One of the great features of this platform is that, over time, Pinterest will start recommending images to you based on your past clicks, providing you with numerous drawing ideas without the need for extensive searching.

It's one of the most popular platforms, with thousands of artists using it, and sometimes even Instagram, to find reference photos and inspiration.

### 3)- Illustrate a Story

One way to get drawing ideas is to illustrate a story or even a book, preferably a children's book if you're a beginner.

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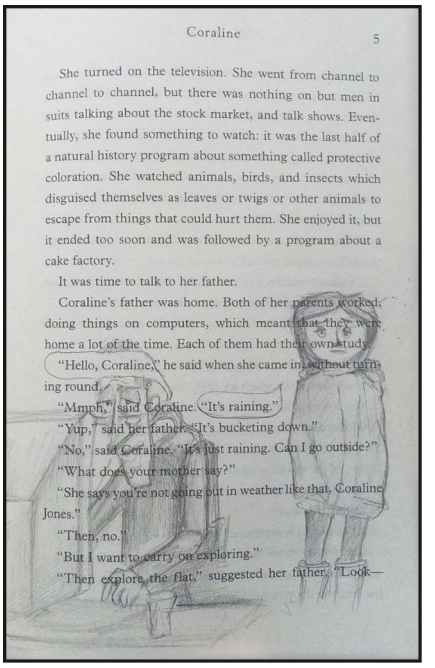
Bonus

With detailed descriptions of the characters, you can draw what you read.

The story itself will inspire your drawings. Moreover, your drawings will be unique because no one else will interpret the same vision exactly as you, regardless of your drawing skills.

In a children's book, characters are often well-detailed, providing you with a clear idea of how each character and scene should look, which allows you to add your personal touch to them.


Coraline 5

She turned on the television. She went from channel to channel to channel, but there was nothing on but men in suits talking about the stock market, and talk shows. Eventually, she found something to watch: it was the last half of a natural history program about something called protective coloration. She watched animals, birds, and insects which disguised themselves as leaves or twigs or other animals to escape from things that could hurt them. She enjoyed it, but it ended too soon and was followed by a program about a cake factory.

It was time to talk to her father.

Coraline's father was home. Both of her parents worked, doing things on computers, which meant that they were home a lot of the time. Each of them had their own study.

"Hello, Coraline," he said when she came in, without turning round.

"Mmph," said Coraline. "It's raining."

"Yup," said her father. "It's bucketing down."

"No," said Coraline. "It's just raining. Can I go outside?"

"What does your mother say?"

"She says you're not going out in weather like that, Coraline Jones."

"Then, no."

"But I want to carry on exploring."

"Then explore the flat," suggested her father. "Look—

*This is a picture of a drawing I made on Neil Gaiman's Coraline book*

### 4) Screenshots

Make it a habit to take screenshots while watching TV shows, movies, or videos on YouTube, as discussed on Day 8. Whenever you come across something that you think might be worth drawing, take a screenshot.

By seeking references in what you see on films, Tv shows and in all other media, you'll expand your perspective on the world around you and how you perceive things. *(Refresh your memory by revisiting Day 8.)*

### 5)- Photo Collage

Whenever you have pictures, whether they're drawings from Pinterest, Instagram, or screenshots as we discussed, you can create unique art by making photo collages. The results can be surprising and even more satisfying than you might expect. Give it a try!

**Feel free to flip back to page 206 as a reminder.**

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## 6)- You Are the Reference!

At times, you might find that some online photos aren't interesting enough to inspire your drawings. In such cases, consider changing your perspective. Instead of searching for reference photos of faces, hands, etc., take pictures of yourself.

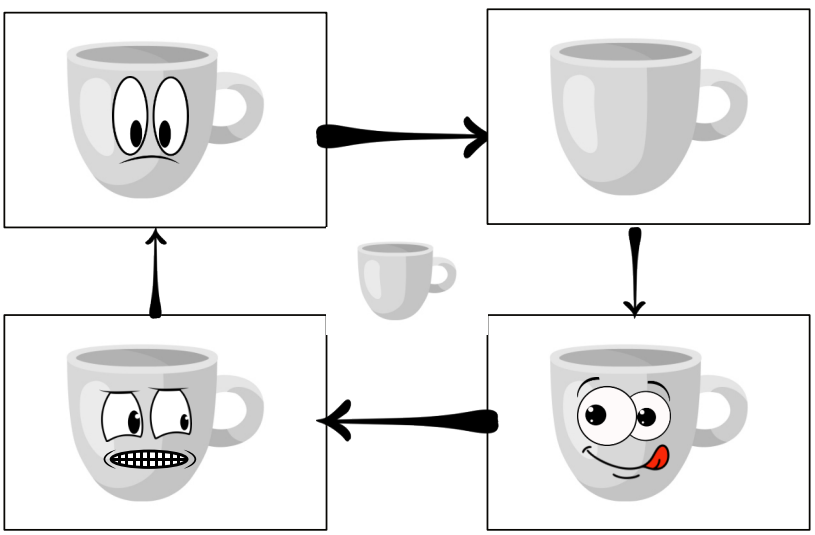
Capture images of your eyes from different angles, as well as your hands, and face, among other things. You can even experiment with caricaturing your own face. If you wish, you can go beyond self-portraits and use pictures of your loved ones or objects from your home or the outdoors to spark your creativity. Remember you are in control, so always keep an eye out for ideas in your surroundings.

## 7)- Drawing comics

You can also create your own comic, starting with a single-page comic as a beginner. Alternatively, you can replicate a comic of your choice, whether it's realistic, cartoonish, with a Marvel comics style, or even manga—whatever suits your preference. (You can also experiment with the technique discussed on day 8)

## 8)- Create Your Own Cartoon Character

Draw some regular objects and then add eyes to them. *(You can refer to page 50 and 51 for eye references.)*



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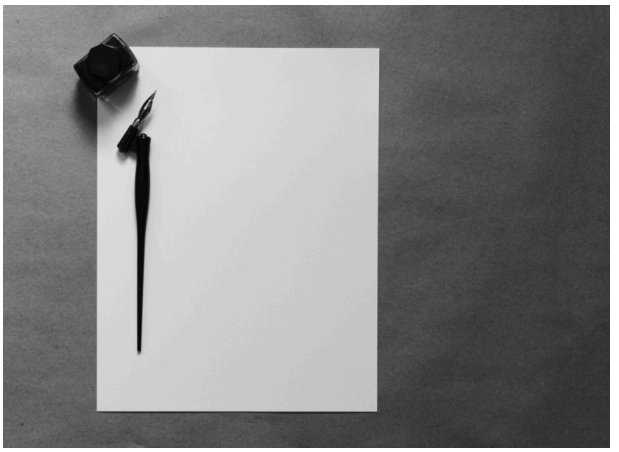
### 9)- Try to Tell a Story with Your Drawing

You can start by writing a sentence and then attempt to visualize what you've written in order to draw it. This doesn't have to be limited to just an idea or a storyline; it can also be a song, a feeling, a dream, or a poem that you'd like to express and bring to life on paper.



*Source: © pixel*

### 10)- Play games with yourself / art challenges

You might want to play drawing games with someone, but not everyone knows someone or has someone in their life who draws. So what you can do is create games or participate in art challenges. Every year, for instance thousands of artists take part in a 30-day art challenge in October called Inktober. Even if you don't use ink, you can draw with a pencil, marker, or any material you prefer, using Inktober's prompts. Of course, you don't have to wait a year to get new prompts; once you finish a year's set of prompts, you can go back and use prompts from previous years.

## In Greater Detail

In your sketchbook, you can create a drawing based on your prompt on one page. Once you've finished, you can explore videos on platforms like YouTube to see what other artists have drawn using the same prompts as you. Many people share their drawings from this challenge online, so why not find inspiration and, if you prefer, compile a collage on the left side of your sketchbook with drawings you've seen online from artists you admire. Alternatively, you can simply draw inspiration from the other artworks without making a collage.

This way, you can play this game with yourself and improve more rapidly while having fun because you'll turn learning into a game. It's a more enjoyable approach!

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Of course, I've only mentioned one of the most famous art challenges, but it can be any art challenge of your choice. If you're not familiar with any, browse the internet by typing 'art challenges.' New ones emerge over the years, so try to stay up-to-date by watching videos and searching online.

### 11)- Study from the Masters

One way to find drawing ideas is to study the works of the masters. You can seek inspiration by attempting to recreate renowned drawings or paintings like 'The Mona Lisa' or Michelangelo's famous work, 'The Creation of Adam.'

You can also explore the works of renowned artists such as Picasso, van Gogh, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and others, or even discover newer artists online. Examine their artworks. There are numerous artists and pieces of art known worldwide. Do a little research online and choose what you like best.

*Source: © The starry night painting of vincent van gogh on Creative Fabrica*

### 12)- Notice What Excites and Inspires you

You never know when the next 'art depression phase' (which is just another way of saying a phase when you don't know what to draw) might strike. So, make it a habit to notice what excites and inspires you to draw in order to prevent it.

Have you ever had those days when you feel inspired and have lots of drawing ideas? Did it ever happen that you did something beforehand that put you in that creative mood and state? If so, knowing what excites and inspires you can help prevent you from facing art block.

For example, some people get inspired by looking at other people's art, visiting art museums, listening to music, reading art books, or watching specific types of art videos from their favorite artists on YouTube, among other things. So on the day you feel that you're in an 'art zone,' try to notice what excited and motivated you in the first place. As I mentioned, once you figure it out, you'll know what to do on the days when you feel uninspired."

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**Quick hack:** Write down somewhere what motivates you to draw so that on the day you feel uninspired, you'll know what to do. Also, on the days you feel inspired, write down the drawing ideas that pop up in your head on small pieces of paper and place them in a jar.

On those days when you are feeling down or experiencing art block, pick a prompt out of the jar!

### 13)- Watching People Draw

Watching people draw on YouTube or in person can be a great source of inspiration. Just for the fun of it, try recreating or simply redrawing what someone else is drawing.

### 14)- Doodling and Drawing What You Feel.

Drawing what you feel can be a great way to express your emotions on paper. It helps you create unique drawings that you'll feel a personal connection to.

**HOW TO PROCEED:**

**1)-** First, before drawing anything, **think of a feeling you'd like to express.**

**2) -** Then take a piece of paper and **write down all the things associated with that feeling.**

(Sounds familiar? That's because it's 'the breaking method' explained on day 2.)

So, if you choose the feeling of 'sadness,' list all the things that make you sad. If you select another emotion like 'happiness,' think about objects, places, dates, or anything that brings you joy.

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**3)-** Next, **search for all the reference images related to your list.**

**4)- You can make a montage or not**

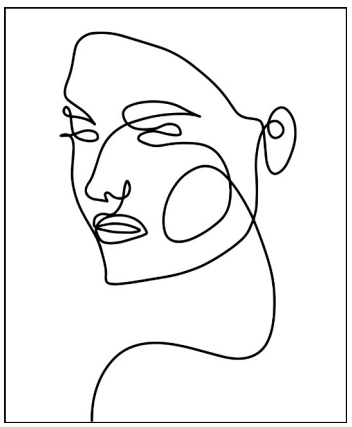
After searching for reference images online for each of the words on your list, you can choose to create a montage, as we discussed on day 8, or not. You can either plan everything in advance by making a montage or draw one thing after another without knowing what the outcome will be.

**5)- Now, Start Drawing!**

On your paper or sketchbook, you can begin drawing. You won't just be drawing something random; instead, you'll be doodling and expressing your feelings on paper.

## 15)- One-Line Art Drawing

This can be a fun activity when you're feeling bored. First things first, what is a one-line art drawing?



One-line art drawing is when you draw something using only a single, continuous line. This means that once the tip of your pencil touches your paper, you don't lift it. If you do lift it, you must continue with the same line (without breaking the pattern).

But you might wonder, drawing in the regular way is already challenging, so why should I further complicate things by not lifting my pencil?

One-line art is a style used by many artists.

**Why it can be helpful to you?**

It's a method to simplify a drawing, so, believe it or not, it can be easier than drawing with frequent lifts of your pencil. Of course, this is true if you follow my technique.

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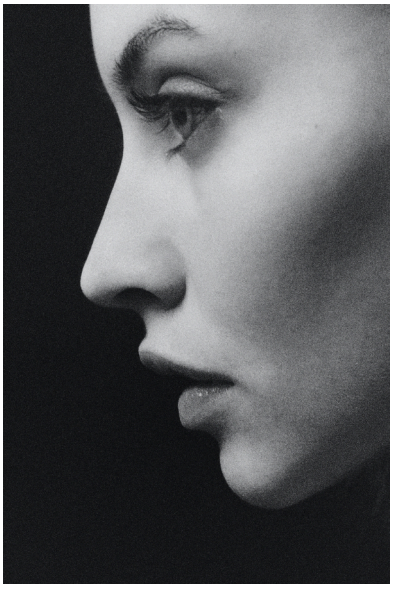
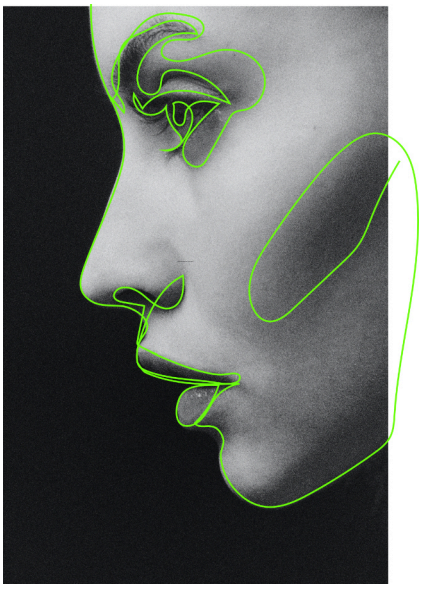
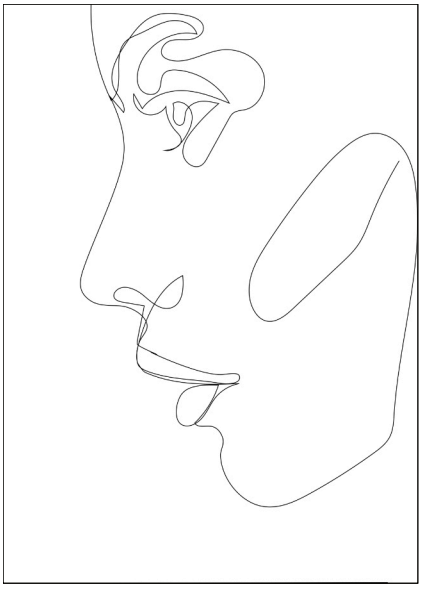
**This technique is a great way to create unique art. Let me show you how to use it.**

If you're feeling bored one day and want to draw something but don't know what to draw, give this a try. Choose a picture of your choice and trace it without lifting your pencil. Even if you accidentally lift your pencil or do so to check your progress, continue drawing the same line without breaking it.

**Let me clarify what I mean with some examples:**







*Source: ©Image via Unsplash*

Basically, you take a picture and try to trace its main lines without lifting your pencil. (Note: You can technically lift your pencil if you want, just ensure you don't 'break' the line or pattern. Now, you understand why it's called a one-line art drawing.) With this technique, you can create really cool artistic drawings.

Know that you can find many decorative house canvases that were made using this simple technique.

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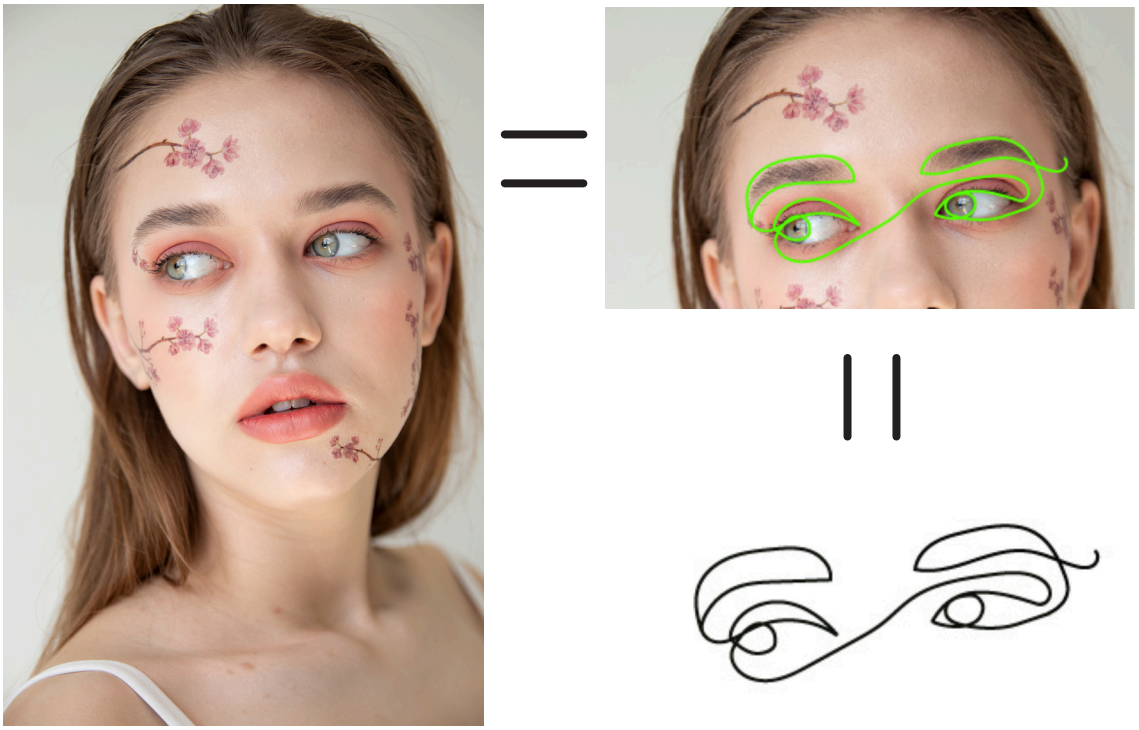

*Source: ©Image by Scott Butcher via Unsplash*

## 16)- Drawing Using Different Syles or Mediums

This can not only be a great drawing idea but also a valuable exercise for you to practice. Essentially, it involves first choosing what to draw; for example, let's say an eye, and then drawing it in various styles such as a realistic eye, a cartoonish eye, an anime eye, or a Disney princess-style eye, etc.

You can also explore different mediums, meaning you can draw the same thing, not only with pencils but also with pens, markers, and so on.

## 17)- Draw Every Day

Draw on at least one page in your sketchbook each day. Your sketchbook could become a kind of diary where you can illustrate whatever happened to you on that day.

It doesn't have to be a detailed drawing; a drawing of a simple object could do the trick.

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**Some Examples:**

For instance, one morning, if you were looking out of your window and admiring the view, that could be your drawing idea. If one day you saw fireworks, then...? Draw the fireworks.

If one day you watched a movie that you really liked, you can draw its title and some of its characters. If you heard a new or one of your favorite songs on repeat that day, then draw its lyrics in a calligraphic style and add doodles here and there.

If nothing particular happened on one day, you can draw what you felt that day.

" I sketch while I'm on set, and it's a way for me to record all of the locations I've been to. I don't keep a diary but a sketchbook."**— Jessalyn Gilsig**

**18)- Create Your Own Drawing Game to Play with Loved Ones**

Feeling like drawing today? Invite someone or a group of people to draw with you for fun. You've probably heard or seen people play this game but never tried it yourself. It involves drawing something (it doesn't have to be perfect) and letting the other person try to guess what you've drawn. This game is even more fun to play in a group. Give it a try; you'll see.

**19)- Drawing Prompts:**

Sometimes, the best way to get drawing ideas is to actually have drawing prompts. That's why I'm going to share some drawing prompts with you, which you can find on the next page:

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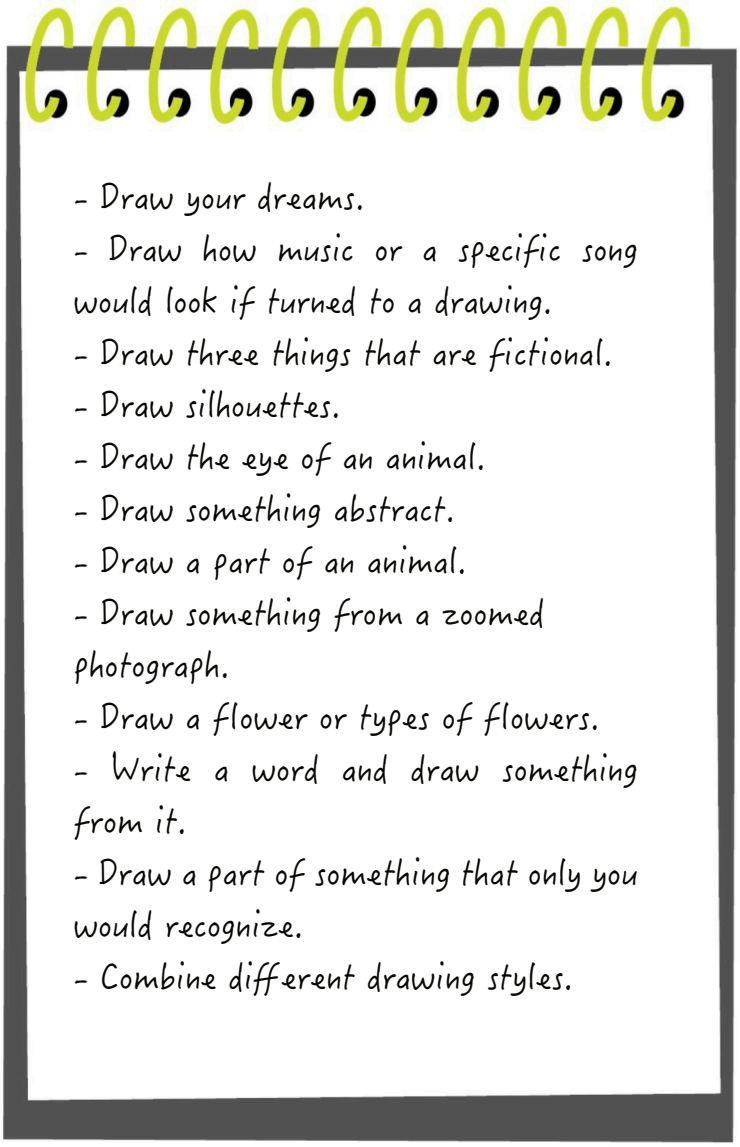


Here are some drawing prompts that you can use as inspiration:

**20)- More drawing ideas on my website**

The drawing ideas shared before will hopefully be helpful for you.

If you would like even more drawing ideas, I have a section dedicated only for that on my website.

Simply go to: https://www.khouriamelia.com

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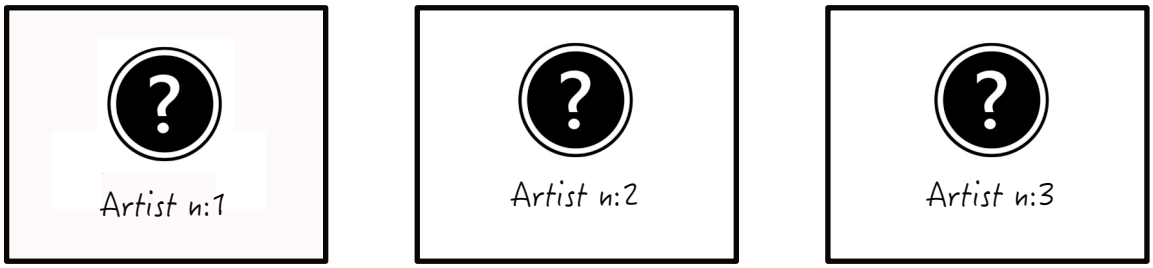
# How to find your art style?

*"Good artists copy. Great artists steal."*
*— Pablo Picasso*

### 1. Find Artists Whose Artwork You Like

Choose a minimum of 3 or 5 artists whose work you like, admire, or find inspiring to you. If you like more than five artists, even better but 3 to 5 can be sufficient.




### 2. Copy & get inspired by their artwork

Copy their artwork meticulously, perfecting it line by line, and find inspiration from their work to create your own.

Afterward, here's what you should do:

### 3. Combine several of their artworks into one

As the title says, try to combine several of their artwork into one. What I really mean and encourage you to do is to identify a particular 'pattern or similarity' in the artists' work. For example:

**Artist number 1:** Always draws a flower on the corners.
**Artist number 2:** Focuses on landscapes, animals, and nature-related themes.
**Artist number 3:** Specializes in abstract art.
**Artist number 4:** Likes to draw things that related to the ocean.
**Artist number 5:** Always draws hands in various positions and angles.

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Do you now understand what I mean by noticing a certain pattern in what they draw? Excellent. Now, after noticing that, combine the small elements that you like from their work into one artwork.

**4. With time, you'll naturally lean toward what you like and what feels right.**

Through practice and time, the styles of the artists you have copied, been inspired by, loved, and practiced will blend with your own artistic touch.

**5. Finally, add your own personal touch.**

After combining various elements from artists you like, incorporate something that you personally like yourself; this is where the list you made on day 2 will come in handy.

For instance, if you like dolphins merge your dolphin with the initial artwork. If you like a certain song, artistically include the lyrics to complete your drawing.

After repeating this process with multiple drawings in various ways, you will gradually develop your own unique 'art' style.

Note that you can always “steal” , especially if it's a small element within a larger drawing or painting, and incorporate it into your own artworks. However, be cautious not to copy something too famous, like the Mona Lisa or The Scream, because then it will be evident that you've copied.

**Copy smartly. Steal like an artist.**

**Know this:** Copying is not 'stealing.' By being inspired by another artist, your work becomes as original as art can be in this world of recycled ideas, as your list of sources for inspiration expands. No concept is entirely unique, but by combining widely used ideas and designs from various sources, you can create something that appears new.

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# Your Homework For Today

*"First, you read and copy other writers, then little by little you develop your own style." — Stephen King*

Remember day 3 when I asked you to search for photos of drawings you like and put them in a folder? It's time to reopen this folder.

**With this folder, you'll be able to:**

**1)- Find out your personal interests and the art style you like**: manga, abstract, realistic drawings, comics, etc.

**2)- Once you know what kind of drawings you like, you'll have a better idea of what you want to create.**

This is especially useful if the drawings you like are similar, such as manga, eye drawings, abstract art, landscapes, realistic faces, etc.

Now that you've identified your interests, you can practice drawing what truly excites your passion.

**3)-** If you'd like, you can, at some point, **try drawing the images you've saved in your folder using the techniques you've learned in this book.** (Note: It's generally easier to draw from an existing drawing than from a real reference photo.)

**Something to consider:** If you find that all the drawings you selected are too challenging, try this approach: choose one that you like or select one randomly, and attempt to draw it. If it ends up looking messy, don't worry. Write the date on it and set it aside in a safe place. Then, after a month or more, or when you feel you've improved in your drawing skills, redraw the same image. Repeat this process every few weeks and you will notice improvements each time. This way, over the years, you'll see your progress. It will not only showcase your improvement but also demonstrate how you began.

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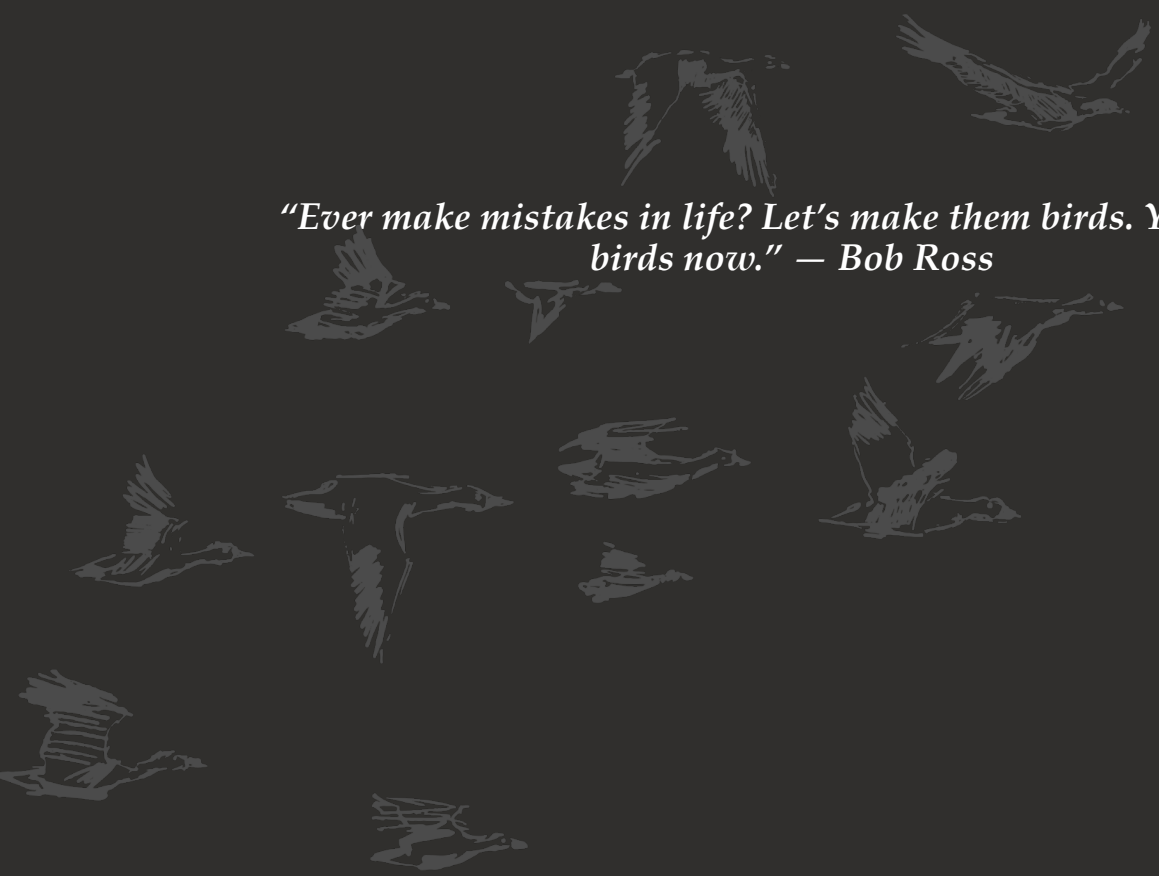

*“Ever make mistakes in life? Let’s make them birds. Yeah, they’re birds now.” — Bob Ross*

**As a beginner in drawing, and even as an artist, you're going to make mistakes in many drawings. However, what if I told you that there are ways to recover your messed up artworks? Let's dive in and unveil some tips and tricks.**

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# Different ways to fix your drawings & make them look cooler (+ Drawing Ideas)

## 1- Taking a step back

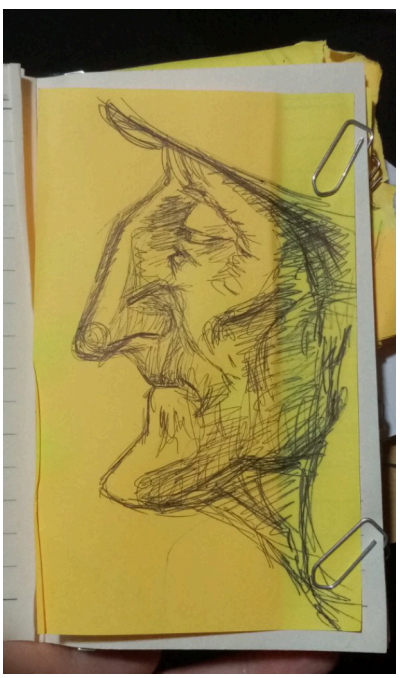
Literally, take a step back to view your drawing from a different angle. Perhaps you've spent hours drawing, with your nose nearly touching the paper of your sketchbook, trying to perfect whatever it is you're drawing. By taking a step back, standing up, and looking at your drawing from another level and angle, you'll gain a more global perspective of your work. This will help you identify any mistakes you may have made and guide you in making corrections.

**Applying the 360-degree rotation process:**

What I mean by this is not only taking a step back but also rotating your drawing 90 degrees, making some adjustments, then rotating it again another 90 degrees, and so on until you've completed the full 360-degree rotation process.

**Always use this when you know there is something wrong with your drawing but you don't know what or simply when you want to finalize your drawing.**

## 2- Cover it and make a better drawing on top of it



Sometimes, while drawing various sketches on a piece of paper or in our sketchbook, we might make a mistake in one drawing, but we don't want to get rid of the whole page. We simply want to fix the drawing but we don't know how to do so. Here's a solution: cover it with a post-it note and draw on top of it. This will make your drawing stand out and look even cooler. It's a creative drawing idea that you can use, and you can even try drawing on top of a post-it even if you haven't made a mistake in your original drawing, as it can become an art style in itself.

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## 3 - Make a collage

Bonus

*Source: ©Image via pexel*

This drawing idea can be quite helpful in turning a mistake into a masterpiece.

If you have multiple sketches in your sketchbook and you mess up one drawing, but you don't want to get rid of the whole page, try covering it by pasting a photo on top.

Alternatively, if you have a drawing that doesn't look great and you're unsure how to improve it, you can enhance it by covering some parts with complementary pictures, such as those from a magazine, to give your drawing a unique and cool look.

The most important thing is that you'll need to find a good picture or even several pictures that need to match with your drawing so that it'll work and look cool.

This is a very effective trick that will help you hide the parts that aren't drawn well and make your artwork stand out as a pure piece of art.

You can also cut the parts of your drawing that look good and paste them on something else like the picture on the right.

*Source: © Photo by Jon Tyson via Unsplash*

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## 4- Draw rough sketches around your drawing

If, for instance, you drew a mouth in your sketchbook but it looks off for some reason, try this: fill your page with several sketches of mouths surrounding your first drawing. Ensure that the other mouths look better.

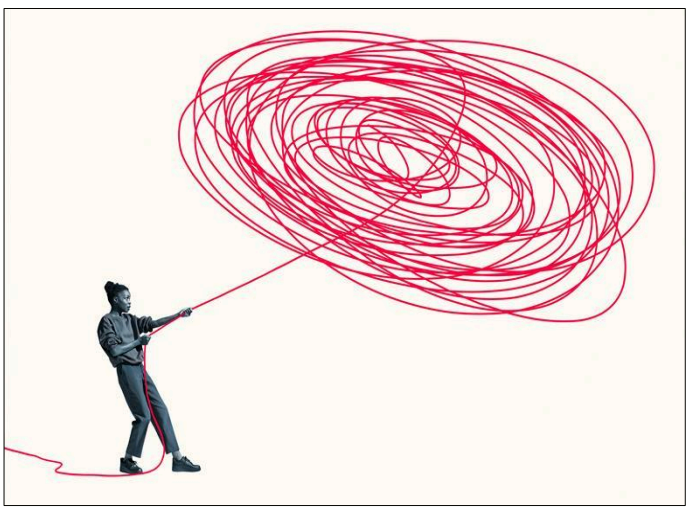
*Source: ©Image via pexel*

With numerous similar-looking mouths, people may not even notice your original drawing mistake.

They will just see a page filled with sketches of mouths. You can even say, 'These are some lip sketches, part of an art study,' as if there was nothing more normal and basic😉

> ''There's no such thing as a mistake, really. It's just an opportunity to do something else.'' — **Ralph Steadman**

## 5- Make your mistake a part of your drawing



*Source- © Klaus Vedfelt Getty Images*

Yes, you heard right. Building on the previous tip, try to incorporate your mistake into your drawing by adding something that complements it and enhances the overall look of your artwork. This will make it appear as if you meant to include what you initially considered a drawing mistake. For an example of what I mean, you can look at the image above which is a pure representation of how a mistake and something stupid can be turned into a cool piece of art.

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Bonus

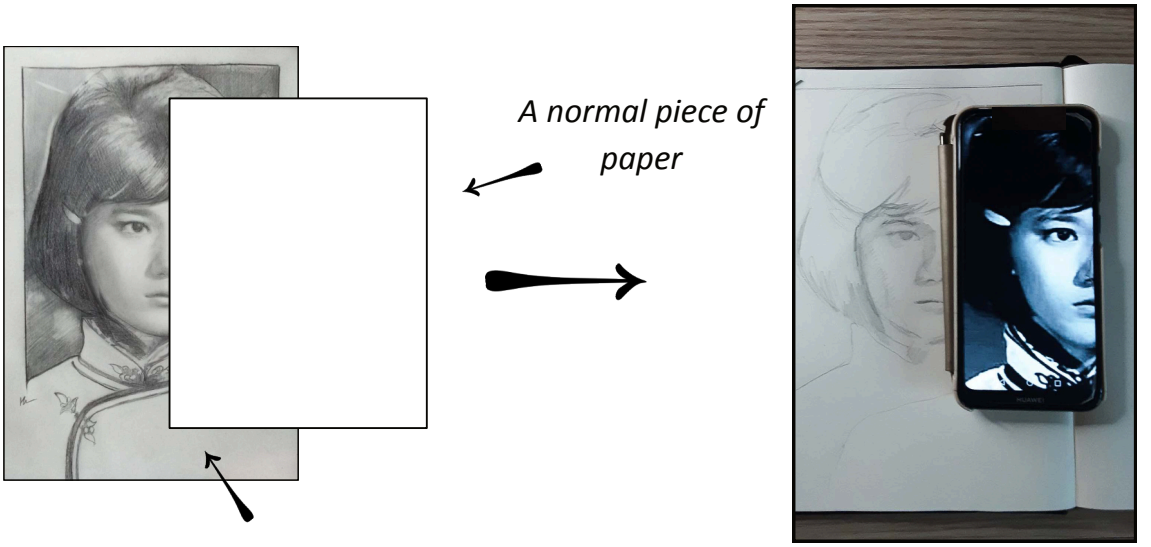
## 6)- Go do something else and come back to your drawing

**Another really useful tip to fix your drawing:** This may sound basic and even a bit annoying, but this tip that I'm about to tell you is VERY useful. If you've spent hours on a drawing and your drawing doesn't look quite right, and you know that there's a mistake but you don't know where, go take a little break.

Step away from your drawing for a while and then return to it. You'll often find that the drawing mistakes you didn't notice before will suddenly become weirdly obvious.

## 7- Fix a drawing by focusing on one part at a time

So basically, what I suggest you do whenever you want to draw something is to first make a quick overall sketch to indicate where everything should be, but without drawing any details. Then, if you're using your phone to look at your reference, zoom in to a specific area that you want to work on, then put it next to your drawing. Try also to cover the other areas of your drawing that you won't be working on at first. It will be easier this way to focus on what you're working on. So, as you go, cover, for instance, half of your drawing and focus on perfecting the other half. Then, cover everything but the eyes and the forehead, and so on and so forth...




*Drawing I've made of Nora Miao*

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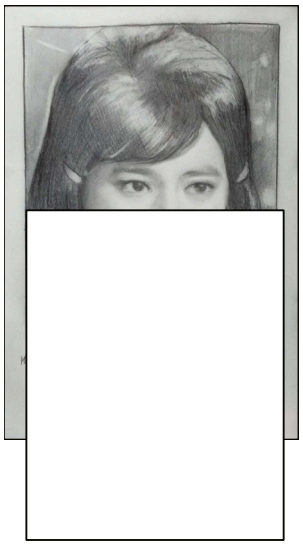
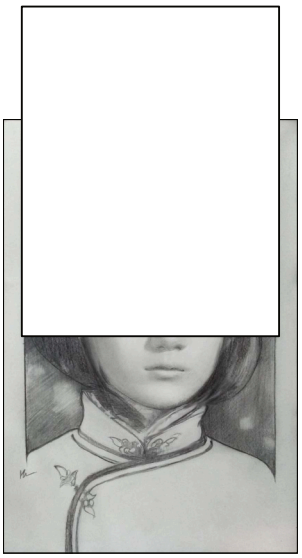
If you want to focus:

... On half the drawing.



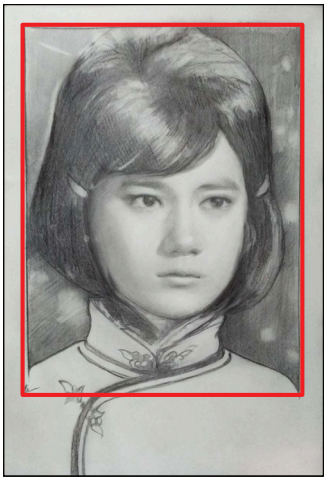
...On only the eyes and forehead.



...On only the lower part of the face

## 8- Restrict your drawing area

One thing I've noticed over the years is that it's easier to draw on a restricted area. What I mean by that is if you print, for instance, a reference image and take its contour measurements to then draw the same contour in your sketchbook, it will be easier for you to draw because you'll know where you should draw and therefore where to focus.



That is one of the reasons gridlines are really helpful. So if you're drawing without the help of gridlines, draw at least either the same contour as your reference image or by simply defining where your drawing will be.

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Bonus

## 9- Give yourself a second try on another page

Sometimes, no matter what your level is (whether you're a newbie or a professional drawing artist), you can make mistakes. So on some days, your first try on a drawing may suck.

On those occasions, it is often better to simply give it a second try on another page. You can be surprised at how well it could turn out. You simply should trust the process, and this is part of it - knowing when to stop, when to give it another try, and to know again when to stop.

That itself is an art.

**And finally:**

**Note:**

These were methods for correcting drawings, but occasionally, despite your best efforts, there will come times when you won't be satisfied with a drawing you've made. Stopping and starting over is preferable at times.

So, if one day you spend hours on a drawing and no matter what you've done, you're not satisfied with the final artwork, and you decide to give up, tear up the paper, and start another drawing. You're going to feel so relieved after tearing it up, as if a weight has been removed from your shoulders.

**Why tear it up? It's therapeutic.**

Because if you leave the drawing intact, you're going to feel as if you have an "unfinished business." In addition to that, whenever you will see that drawing, you're not going to feel good, and it might even affect your self-esteem.

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**Focus on one thing and you will not fail**

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# Focus on one thing and you will not fail

*"I fear not the man who has practiced 10,000 kicks once, but I fear the man who has practiced one kick 10,000 times."* **— Bruce Lee**

It is a well-known fact: if you want to become good at something, you have to master the art of practice and repetition. However, it's not just about practicing for the sake of practicing.

No, it's about having a plan and knowing what you want your end goal to be. If it's a significant goal, then divide it into smaller goals and practice each one repeatedly until the action becomes intuitive and second nature to you, ultimately helping you reach and achieve that "final" goal.

Not everyone reading this book will have the same "end goal." Yes, the main and initial goal is to learn to draw, but the end goal may vary for each person.

What I mean is that some people want to learn to draw mainly just to be able to draw portraits, while others aim to perfect the art of drawing landscapes, or even manga, etc.

This book, until now, has shown you the basic principles, the main tools, and techniques that will help you reach your end goal, whatever that end goal may be.

It could be just to draw certain things well enough to pass the time, or simply to know the basics of drawing in general. On the contrary, some aspire to become masters in a certain artistic field of their choice.

For those who want to become masters and be able to draw certain things like a pro, as if they are second nature to them, this section is for you.

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**1)- First, define what your end goal is**

If you don't know what it is yet, there is a simple way to figure it out. All you need to do is to imagine for a second that you are a drawing pro, an amazing artist. Let your mind wander and imagine you can draw anything perfectly.

By being able to draw anything, what is something you would draw that would make you proud of yourself? That will make you go, "Wow, that's impressive and I drew it"?

**If you still have no idea, then here are two other things you can do:**

**1-** Go to Pinterest and type in: “drawing” and look at all the drawings that Pinterest is going to propose to you, and ask yourself the same question as earlier: "If I were the one who drew all of these drawings, which of these drawings would I be more proud to have drawn?"

**2-** Go and open the folder made on day 3 **(on page 97)**; there you probably already chose on that day drawings that you found impressive and cool. So simply ask yourself the same question as earlier.

**2)- Determine your dedication and will power**

Now that you know what your end goal is and what you would like to achieve, it's time for you to decide if you really want to achieve that end goal or if it's simply a dream, a wish you would like to see come true. Is it just a thought like, 'It would be great if I could draw this, but I can't... I know I would never be able to draw like this. It's impossible.etc...'? With that mentality,

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you'll never be able to reach those goals, and it will then remain forever a simple wish.

If you feel, on the contrary, that 'No! It's not just a dream. I really want to do that!' Then let's jump to making a plan that will help you achieve your end goal.

**3)- Make a plan according to your determination**

Obviously, I am not next to you to create a personalized plan made to your needs and goals. However, I will provide you with examples of three plans at different intensities (easy, intermediate, and hard) so that you can understand the fundamental and basic principles of how to create your own plan to reach your end goal.

---

## Planning is everything

The three plans I'm going to share with you are based on the end goal of being able to draw faces and realistic portraits in general. Keep in mind that the longer and more intense the plan is, the better the results will be if followed every day and correctly.

### Plan number 1 : Intensity (easy)

*Master drawing these facial features each day for a week, as followed, for a minimum of one hour.*

- **Day 1:** Draw an eye ☐
- **Day 2:** Draw 2 eyes ☐
- **Day 3:** Draw 2 mouth ☐
- **Day 4:** Draw a nose ☐
- **Day 5:** Draw an ear ☐

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- **Day 6:** Draw the upper part of a face (eyes with the nose) ☐
- **Day 7:** Draw the lower part of a face (the nose, mouth, and chin) ☐
- **Day 8:** Draw a complete face ☐

---

## Plan number 2 : Intensity (intermediate)

*Master drawing these facial features each week for a minimum of one to two hours each day.*

- **Week 1:** Draw an eye (looking straight ahead) ☐
- **Week 2:** Draw an eye (from the sides and various angles) ☐
- **Week 3:** Draw two eyes (looking straight ahead) ☐
- **Week 4:** Draw two eyes (from the sides and various angles) ☐
- **Week 5:** Draw a mouth ☐
- **Week 6:** Draw a mouth (from the sides) ☐
- **Week 7:** Draw a nose ☐
- **Week 8:** Draw a nose (From the sides and various angles) ☐
- **Week 9:** Draw an ear ☐
- **Week 10:** Draw an ear from different angles ☐
- **Week 11:** Draw the upper part of the face (eyes with the nose) ☐
- **Week 12:** Draw the lower part of the face (the nose, mouth, and chin) ☐
- **Week 13:** Draw a complete face (male) ☐
- **Week 14:** Draw a complete face (female) ☐

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## Plan number 3 : Intensity (hard)

*Master drawing these facial features each month, dedicating a minimum of 1 hour each day to practice. Try to use only one reference image for each day.*

- **Month 1:** Master drawing one eye from different angles. Change the angle of the eye after each week (week 1: an eye looking straight, week 2 an eye from the side, etc.). Don't limit yourself to practicing only one type of eye; explore both genders, all age groups ,and races. ☐

- **Month 2:** Master drawing two eyes looking in different directions and from various angles. Continue changing the angle each week, as you did on the first month. (Just like in the first month, don't limit yourself to practicing only one type of eyes; explore both genders, all age groups, and races.) ☐

- **Month 3:** Master drawing mouths from different angles, including an opened mouth. Dedicate at least a whole week to drawing mouths where the teeth are visible. ☐

- **Month 4:** Master drawing noses from different angles. Try to draw perfect looking noses as well as crooked, long, small, and large ones. ☐

- **Month 5:** Master drawing ears from different angles. ☐

- **Month 6:** Master drawing the upper part of the face from various angles. ☐

- **Month 7:** Master drawing the lower part of the face from various angles. ☐

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- **Month 8:** Master drawing complete faces from various angles. Draw both female and male faces from different ages and races. ☐

---

**What is important to know:**

Make your own plan based on what you want, need, and can do.

The basis, or rather the main idea, of these exercises is to focus on one thing at a time, as **Robert Green once said: "The time that leads to mastery is dependent on the intensity of our focus."**

Practice, practice, and practice again until it becomes second nature.

**A helpful tip:**

On the first day of whatever plan's principal you've chosen to follow, time yourself and count how long it will take you, for instance, to draw an eye.

After a few days (or, if you've chosen the first plan, after a couple of minutes), start challenging yourself by timing how long it takes you to draw, aiming to complete each drawing faster and with more improvement compared to your previous attempt.

This approach turns your learning process into a game, helping you learn faster, observe your progress, and stay motivated to continue improving.

---

One last thing before ending this section:

*"Don't stop when you're tired; stop when you're done." — **Marilyn Monroe***

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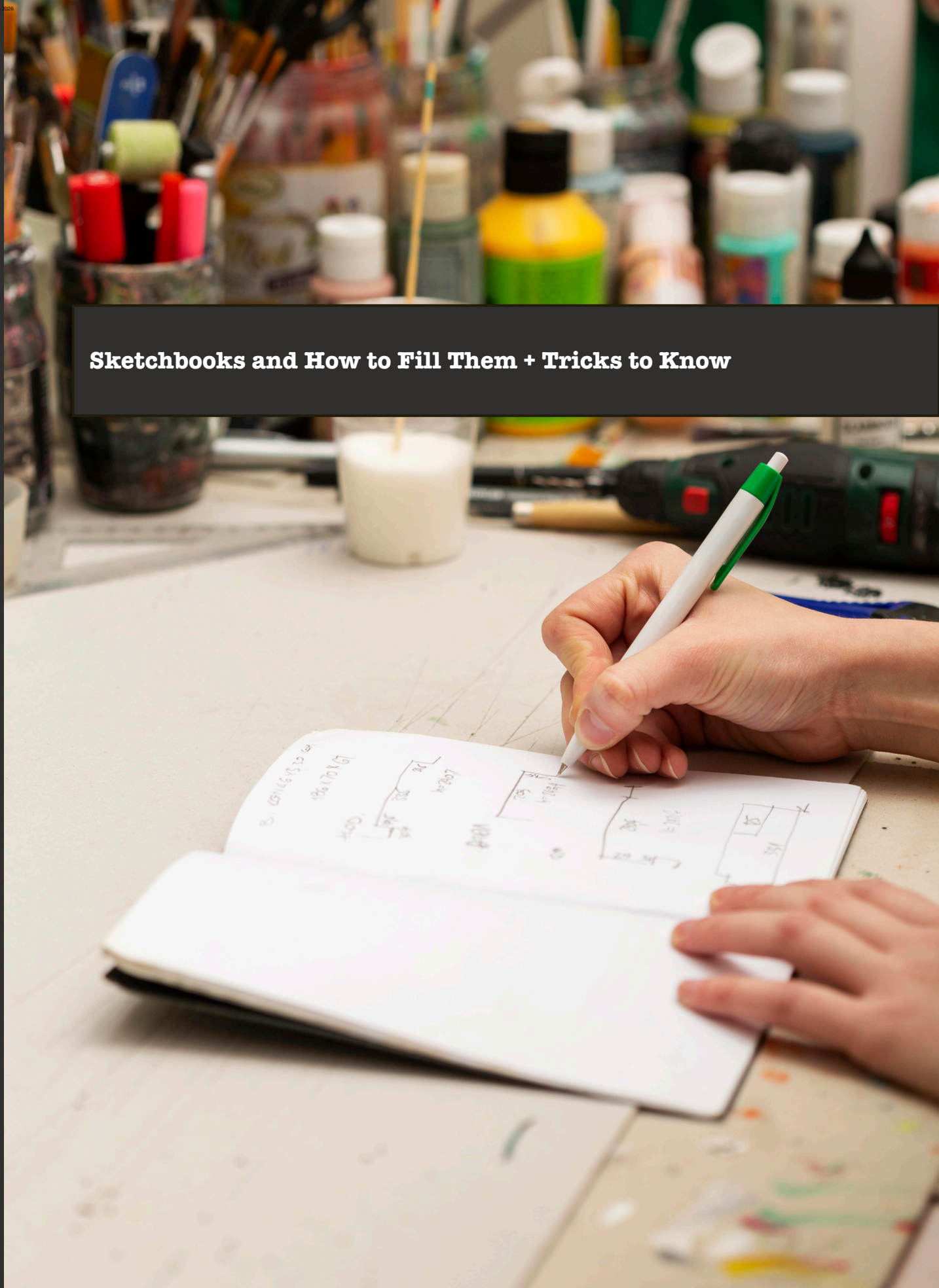
# Sketchbooks and How to Fill Them + Tricks to Know



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# Sketchbook tricks to know

*"My sketchbook is a witness of what I am experiencing, scribbling things whenever they happen. — **Vincent Van Gogh***

There isn't really an instruction manual when it comes to using a sketchbook, but I thought it would be nice to provide you with a few tips and ideas.

So, that's what I'm going to share with you in this chapter: simple ideas to help you organize your sketchbook to your liking. (I already shared some ways to divide your sketchbook before day 3, so you can refer back to page 73.)"

## How to fill the first pages of your sketchbook

The first few pages can be intimidating. You might want them to be perfect, which can lead to overthinking and not drawing at all. The fear of making a mistake can hold you back from drawing comfortably and using your full potential.

## So what should you do then?

**1-** First, take it easy and always keep in mind that no matter what you do, you can always fix it, as we saw in one of the previous chapters (page: 315). There are many ways to fix a drawing, and one of them is to cover it, either with a sticker (if it's a small drawing or only a part of a drawing) or simply by covering the entire page with colored paper of your choice.

**2-** As mentioned (on page 73), you can write your name and contact info on the first page. (You can also add doodles here and there on that page.)

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**3)- Get rid of the pressure of getting the first pages perfect.**

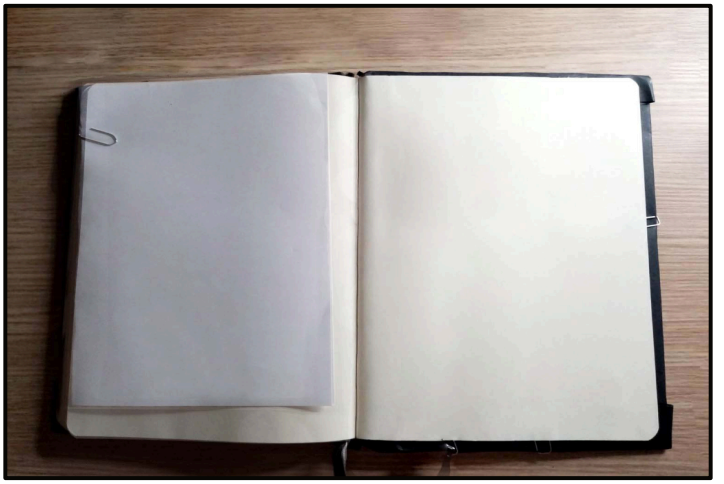
Before starting to draw right away, leave the first couple of pages blank. This way, when you start on the other pages, you will have relieved the pressure of making the first pages perfect.

**Note: If you don't want to see blank pages every time you open your sketchbook, secure the first pages with two paper clips (one on top and one below). You can, of course, go back to the first blank clipped pages to fill them in if you have drawn a lot in your sketchbook and have become more comfortable with it.**

**4)- Don't be afraid to use stickers** and stick them on the front pages and even all over your sketchbook. (You can either draw on a sticker, then stick it in your sketchbook, or stick it in, then draw on it, whichever you prefer).

**5)- Drawing in your sketchbook. Not an obligation!**

You don't always have to draw in your sketchbook. Sometimes you could make a sketch on a normal piece of paper if you're outside and don't have your sketchbook nearby. If one of those drawings made on a piece of paper turns out nice, then clip it or paste it in your sketchbook.



***Note: This could be an alternative to tip 3 (leaving the first pages blank), so you can clip drawings on other papers onto the first pages of your sketchbook.***

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**6)- You can set up a theme or themes for your sketchbook**

I find this to be a great way to give a "vibe" to your sketchbook and avoid dealing with art block when you have no idea what to draw.

There are different ways to use a sketchbook. You can use it to experiment by drawing what you like, which is perfectly fine, by the way. Alternatively, you can choose one or several themes that will help you come up with drawing ideas.

So, if you're a fan of cartoons, you can dedicate a whole sketchbook to drawing only cartoons. If you're passionate about plants, dedicate your sketchbook to drawing just that.

**How can I come up with more theme ideas?**

This will depend on your end goal and interest. So remember for instance last section we talked about “goal making” and I provided you with 3 plans that you could use if your end goal was to be able to draw amazing portraits.

Well you could turn your sketchbook into a training book on mastery drawing portraits and divide it into sections to achieve your goal ; a section to draw eyes, another sections to draw mouths, another sections to draw noses and so on.

**Interests:**

If you don’t really want or have a specific plan or goal and you just want to draw you can dedicate your whole sketchbook to divide to sections you want. For example, you can have multiple sections like:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Section 1 = Animals<br>Section 2 = Eyes | Section 3 = Faces<br>Section 4 = 3D Objects | Section 5 = Manga |

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Bonus

Basically, each section can be dedicated to something you like. You can also divide your sketchbook into moods and draw whatever you want in those sections related to the moods you choose to name them after.

**Example:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Section 1: Happy Mood | Section 2: Sad Mood | Section 3: Angry Mood |

**What's the point of doing all of this?**

By doing this, your sketchbook will be organized, and whenever you want to draw something, you won't be lost because you'll have a general idea of what you can and should draw in your sketchbook.

Obviously, there are lots of people who prefer to be more free and draw whatever they like randomly whenever they feel like it.

If you're one of those people, feel free to do just that. I just wanted to share some ideas. In the end, you're the one who decides.

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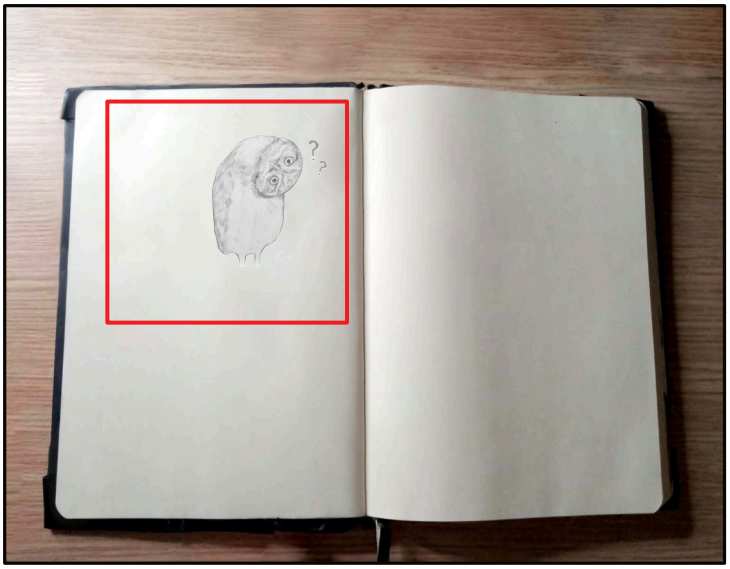
**Last additional tip for the road:**

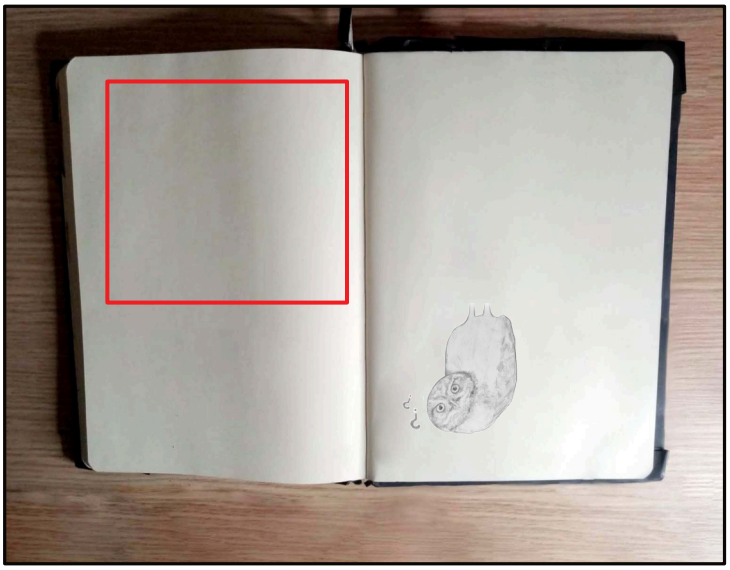
There are some people who have difficulty drawing on certain sides of their sketchbook, whether it is the left or right side. A very simple tip is to just flip your sketchbook, turn it upside down, and there you go...

Let's say this is the area where you like to draw in your sketchbook.



And you don't like or are not comfortable drawing on the right side, for instance.

After turning your sketchbook upside down, you will be able to draw comfortably in the desired area.



...you can now draw on the side that you prefer. In addition to that, your sketchbook will have a beautiful and unique look.

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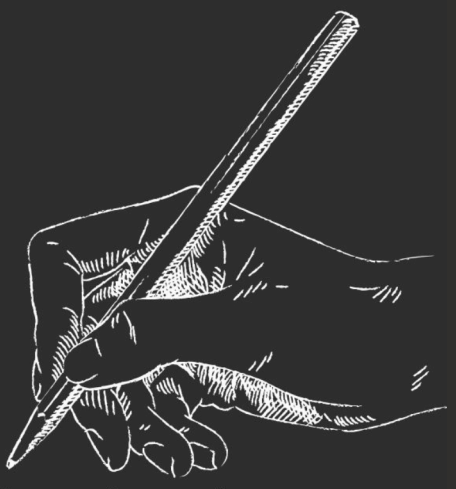
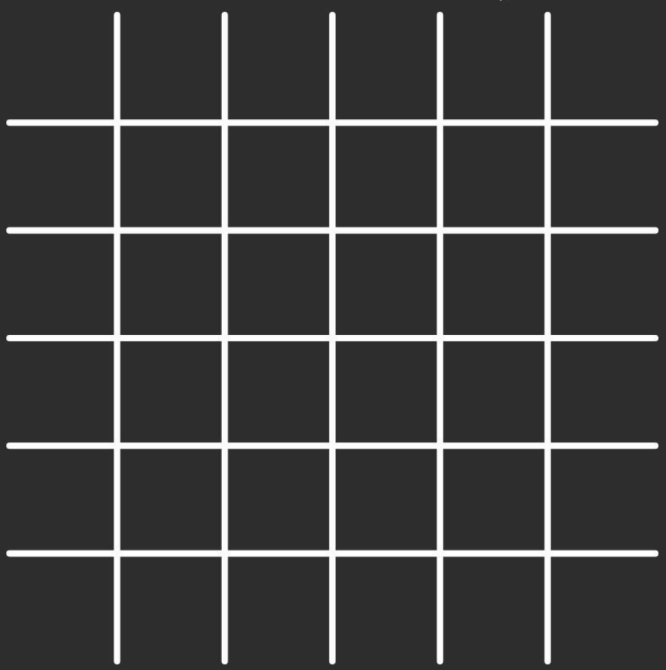
IMPORTANT

*Know when to overcome this stage:*





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## Overcome the need to use gridlines over time

*"It's important to learn from your mistakes, but it is better to learn from other people's mistakes, and it is best to learn from other people's successes. It accelerates your own success. "* ***— Jim Rohn***

In this chapter, I want to take the time to explain something important that few beginners know when they first start to draw.

Most of the time, it is only after years of drawing that an artist may realize a challenge they need to overcome and learn from.

Freehand drawing from the imagination, for example, is not something that comes naturally over time. No. In fact, in case you didn't know, most people who learn to draw and manage to create impressive artwork either continue to use the grid line method or struggle to create anything impressive without a reference photo.

But you might be wondering, how do many artists manage to create unique and original artwork? In reality, many professional artists take their own reference photos when they have a specific idea in mind. They not only rely on these photos but often create photo montages in advance, similar to what we discussed on day 8.

Either that, or they search for reference photos from various sources. Therefore, when they draw based on their references, their drawings and artworks, in general, look unique, especially if the artist in question has a strong artistic style.

All of this is to say that an artist becomes "dependent" on using reference photos to draw, which is not always a bad thing in some cases, but simply a fact that you should know and be aware of.

### Why is it important, and what you should consider?

It can happen that a person, after several years of practice, can draw and create really professional drawings. However, on the day that person is asked

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**to make a drawing without reference, they would hardly be able to draw anything. It's as if they had lost all their ability and talent accumulated over the years, as if they had never learned to draw.**

This can lead to a certain lack of confidence for some people, who may one day be surprised to find that they cannot draw anything without references.

While this may be shocking for some, others don't see it as a problem and simply continue to draw using reference photos and gridline methods, not worrying about their limitation and focusing only on the end result, which, in a way, is not a problem at all.

### What should you do?

That is up to you. Now that you are aware of this information, if you want to be able to draw one day without needing any reference, you need to first master using the gridline method. Once you become skilled, try to draw without the gridlines using only the reference photo. Then, practice drawing certain things you've mastered drawing with the gridlines, without any grids, and eventually without the reference.

---

## The F.T.B. (Fill the Blank) Drawing Exercise

If you aspire to draw certain subjects without relying on reference pictures in the future, I recommend mastering the art of drawing fundamental objects like facial features (such as an eye, nose, mouth, etc.), overall facial structures, houses, landscapes, flowers, and more.

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## But how?

As mentioned before, a useful tip is to begin your practice with the gridline method. As you gradually become proficient at drawing with grids, proceed to draw using only a reference image. Once you excel in that, it will be time for you to advance and engage in memory drawing exercises, such as the F.T.B. (Fill the Blank) exercise.

**What is the F.T.B. Exercise?**

This drawing exercise is when you try to recall how something should look like using only its outline.

**How to proceed (in step-by-step details):**

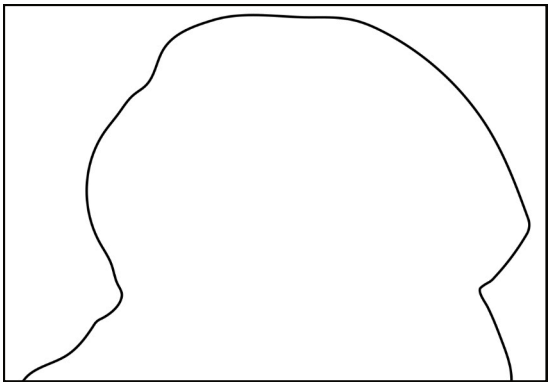
**1-** I find this trick really useful; all you have to do is draw the outline of a reference of the thing you'd like to be able to draw without any reference at some point.

**2-** Once that's done, look really well at the reference image and try to memorize every detail of it.

**3-** When ready, remove the reference image from your sight and start drawing inside the outline you've drawn earlier.

**4-** Repeat this process multiple times until it becomes second nature, and you don't need any outline beforehand to be able to draw that specific drawing.

**Dog outline**



*Source: ©Image via pexel*

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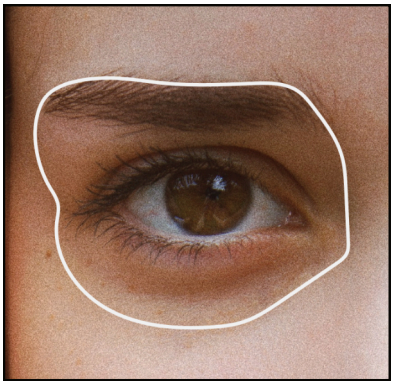
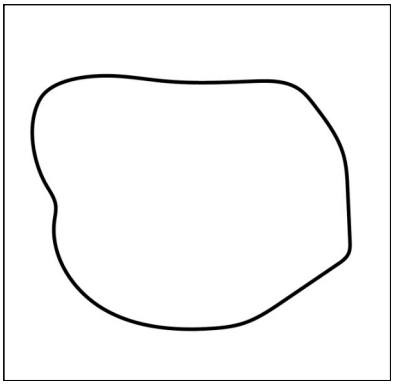
Bonus

# Other outline examples of facial features

Start with the basics and choose things that you either like or would like to be able to draw at some point without any reference image, or that you know people may ask you to draw in the future. For instance, facial features are one of the main things you should practice and master, and here are some step-by-step examples of how to "capture" the outline from different images.

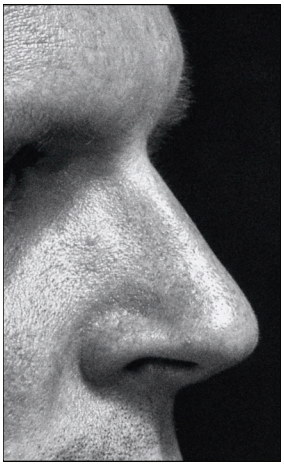


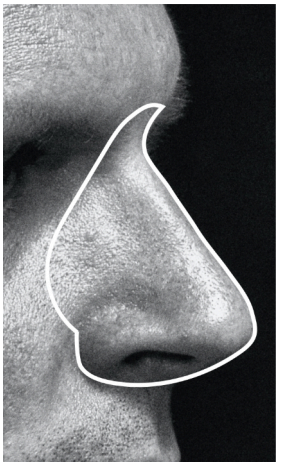


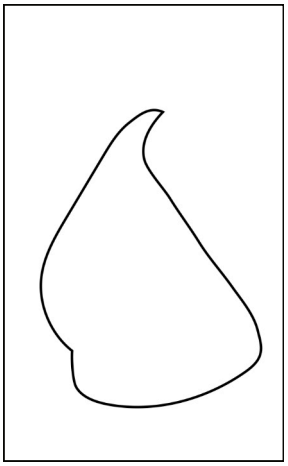
Source: ©Image via pexel

Search and choose a picture. Next, draw the outline of the specific area you need to master, on top of your reference image. After memorizing your reference image, attempt to draw without looking at any other references, staying within the outline you previously drew.

## Nose outline







Source: ©Image alexander krivitskiy via unsplash

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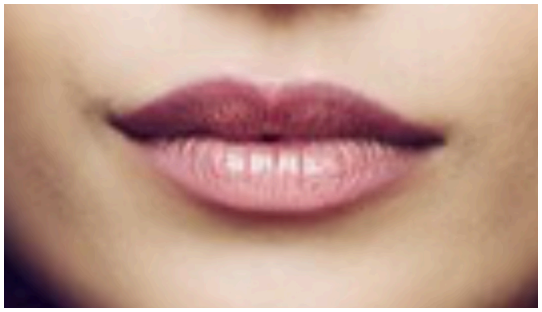
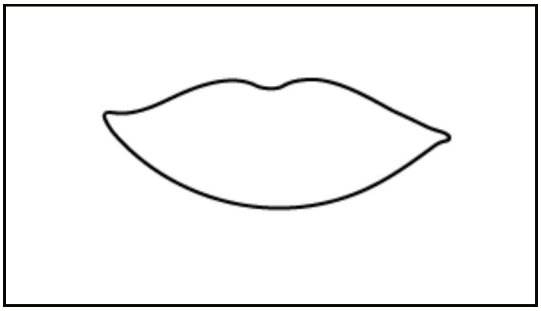
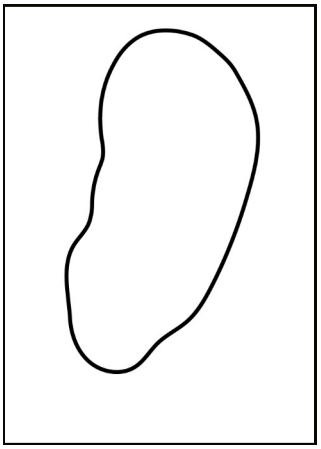
## Mouth outline





Source: ©Image via Pixabay

## Ear outline



Source: ©Image via Pexel

This exercise will also help you see things differently and more clearly. When you see a reference image, you'll be able to notice details more quickly than before.

**Note: You can even turn this into a drawing game by playing it with other people and adding a timer to see who will be able to draw quicker.**

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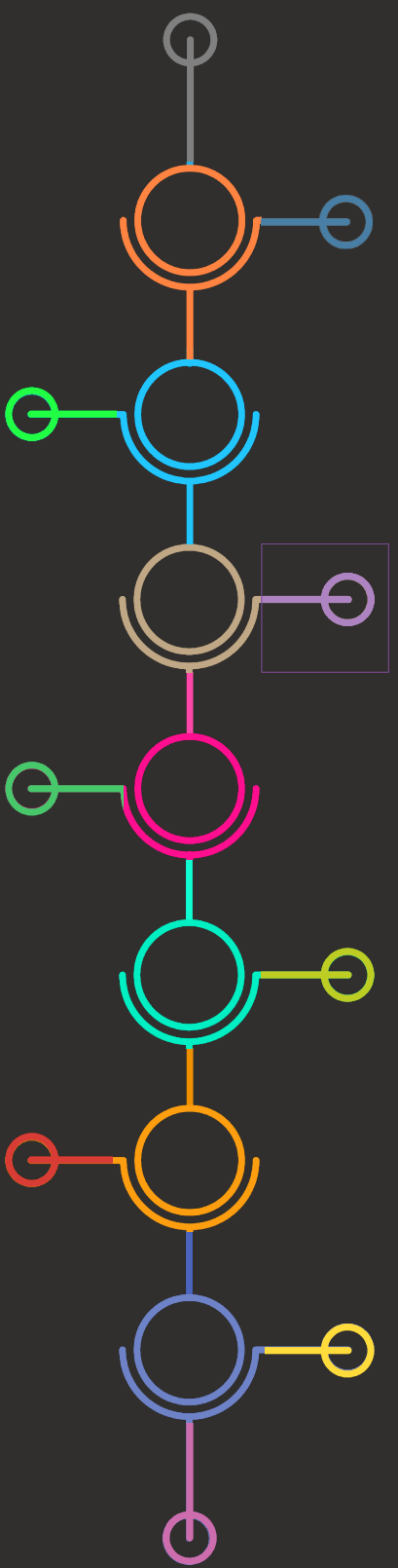

# Let's go back to memory land

*"The only time you should look back in life, is to see how far you have come"*
***- Kevin Hart***

Congratulations for having nearly reached the end of this book! Before we part, I just want you to realize how many things you have learned in a short period of time.

You're probably not a pro yet, but I'm sure there must be a huge difference compared to day one. That is why you should test yourself to see how well you've improved.

Remember the blank rectangles on day one where you drew an eye, a flower, a face, an animal of your choice, another another object or subject of your choice?

On the following pages, you will find the same blank rectangles where, now that you've acquired a certain knowledge and experience, you will be able to draw more easily and way better than on day one.

I don't want you to look at your first drawings that you made on day one just yet. If possible, wait until you have drawn again in those other blank rectangles to then compare and see how well you've improved.

Hopefully, this will give you the necessary motivation boost to make you want to practice even more. If in over 2 weeks you've managed to make huge improvements, imagine if you practice for a month, months, or even a year!

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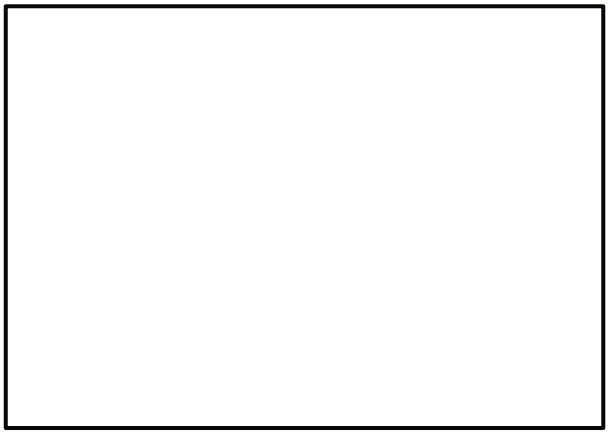
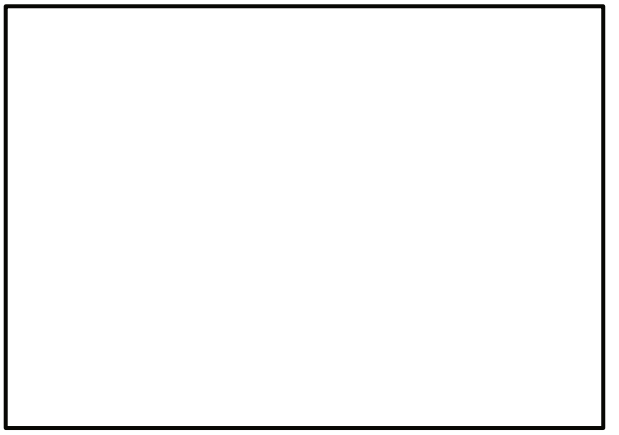
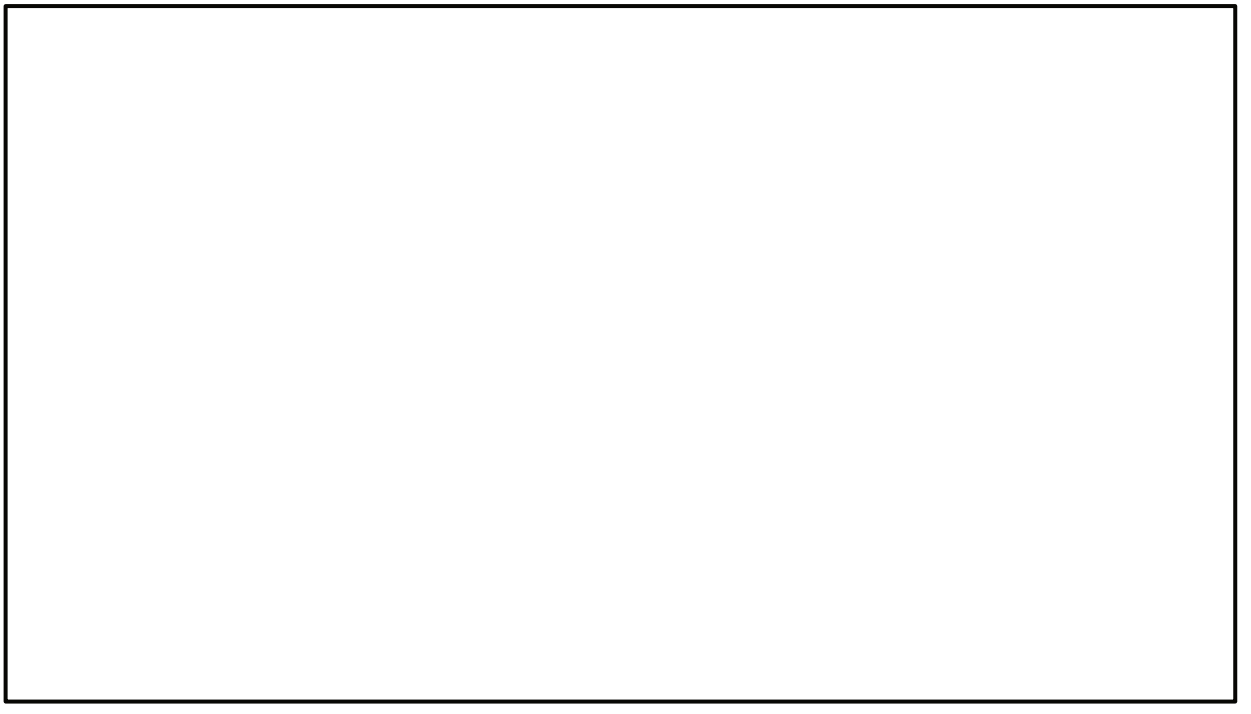


**An eye**



**A flower**



**A house**

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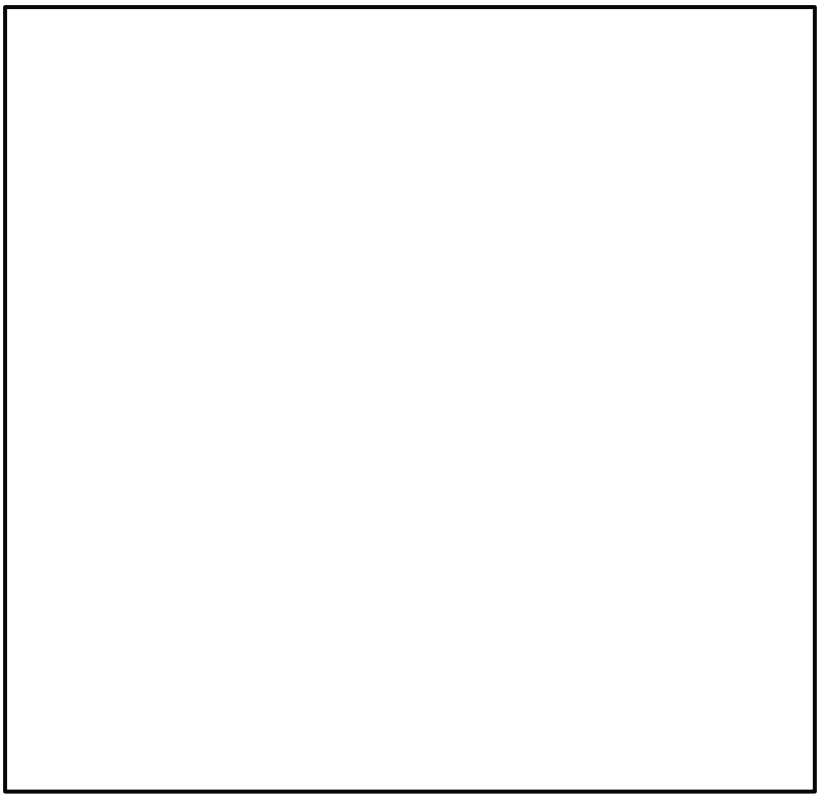
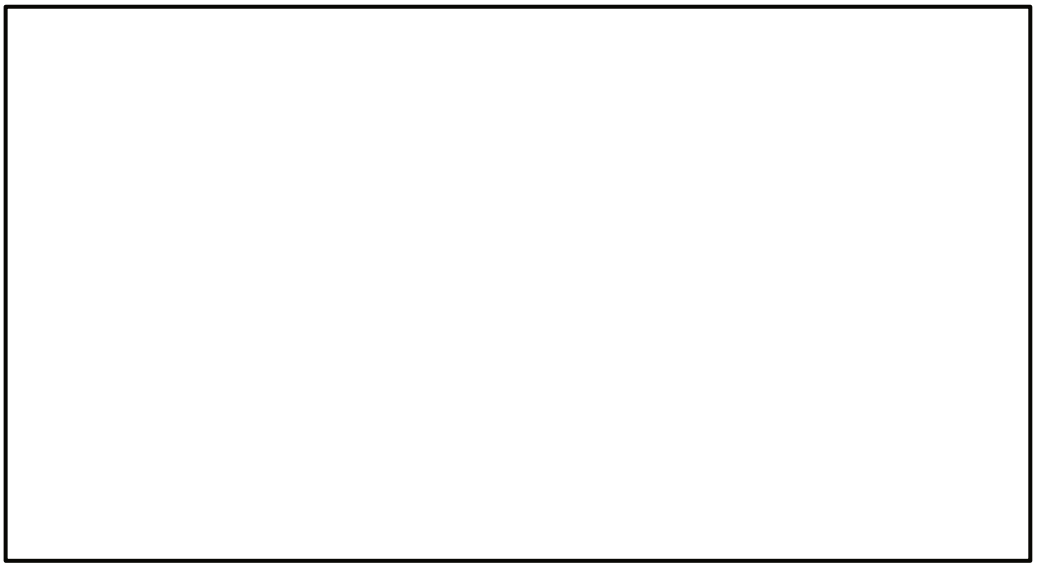


**A face**



**An animal**

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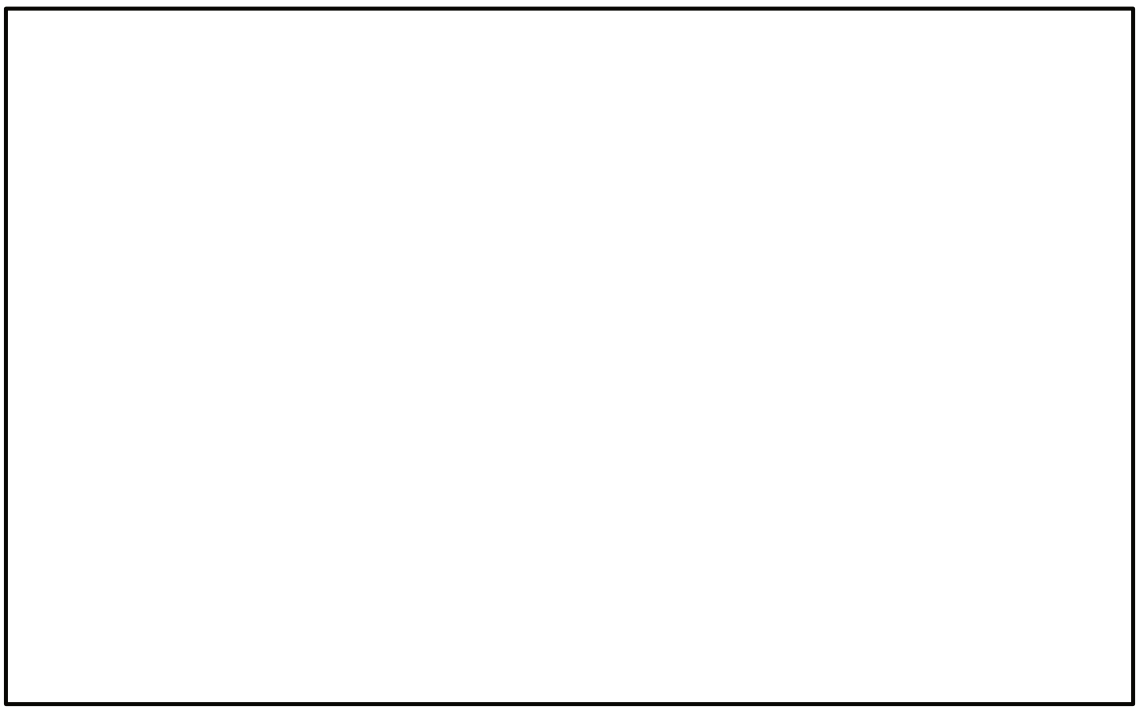

**Another object or subject of your choice**

You can find these template sheets to download and print if you want to.
Simply go to: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

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# Conclusion

Within the last two weeks, you have been introduced to the world of drawing. You drew things you probably never thought you could draw in the past. You have learned how to see the world differently, to see your surroundings as sources of inspiration, to see drawing opportunities everywhere.

In order to be able to create simple 3D drawings without too much difficulty, you have also learned the basics of perspective. Having drawing ideas or finding your drawing style is no longer a mystery to you. And most importantly, now you also understand the importance of the grid method and how to use it to your advantage to draw whatever you want to draw.

**So what's next?**

What you need to do is continue to practice drawing. Come back to this book from time to time as a reference, as a guide when you need it, and as a source of inspiration and assistance. The most important thing is to draw, draw, and draw.
To not stop. Despite what you may think, this is not the end, but only the very beginning of a long artistic journey. Just keep drawing!

**For more guidance, I encourage you to:**

1)- Practice with the references provided in this book. If you want more references, visit: **www.khouriamelia.com/**

2)- If you want more drawing ideas go to : **https://www.khouriamelia.com/blog/drawing-ideas**

3)- If you would like to draw the drawings or references provided in this book, go to: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/links**

4)- Join my drawing course with more than 11 hours of content at: **https://www.khouriamelia.com/**

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"Make good art!" — **Neil Gaiman**

"All the visible world is only light on form."
**— Andrew Loomis**

"Every artist was first an amateur. "
**— Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"If you can dream it, you
can do it." **—Walt Disney**

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"Learning to draw is really a matter of learning to see – to see correctly – and that means a good deal more than merely looking with the eye." **— Kimon Nicolaides**

"We all have 10,000 bad drawings in us. The sooner we get them out the better."
**— Walt Stanchfield**

"Act as if what you do makes a difference, it does." **— Willam James**

"Art is never finished, only abandoned"
**— Leonard de Vinci**

"As practice makes perfect, I cannot but make progress; each drawing one makes, each study one paints, is a step forward."
**— Vincent Van Gogh**

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And that's a wrap!

I hope this book has sparked a surge of creativity in you and brought you the joy of creation. If you've enjoyed the scribbles, sketches, and everything in-between, I'd be super grateful if you could take a moment to leave a review on Amazon. Your thoughts could help other beginner artists to find their way to this book and unleash their own creativity.

Thanks for drawing along with me. Keep those pencils sharp and the ideas flowing!

All the best,

Amelia Khouri

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